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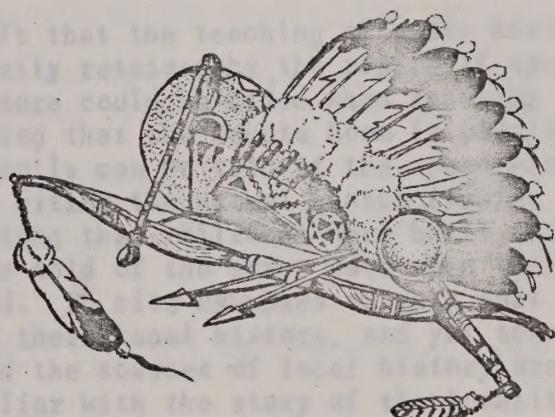
History of

Our County and State

This book is dedicated to those who have labored the first
and sought a permanent home in the Black Hills, and for
virtue in the public schools, and for the welfare of the
and honest people of the county, and for the welfare
of our county.

PREFACE

I have always felt that the teaching of history should be more effective and more easily retained by pupils if it is instances of a local history of a state could be used. Instead of merely saying that the state of South Dakota was settled about 1876 to 1880, it can be said that the county was settled about 1876 to 1880. Instead of saying that the state was organized in 1889, it can be said that the county was organized in 1889. Instead of saying that the state was admitted into the Union in 1870, 1880 and 1890, it can be said that the county was admitted into the Union in 1870, 1880 and 1890. In particular, pupils are more inclined to pay attention to the people, events and institutions of the state and county, and the pupils are more inclined to remember the history of the state and county in which they teach.



Many teachers of South Dakota history feel that the teaching of the subject can be greatly improved if the state and county books are more readily available.

Compiled by

Donald Dean Parker, History Department

South Dakota State College

In carrying out this objective I have done the following:

History of Our County and State



South Dakota State College
Dakota County Historical Museum
Completely by
Dakota County Historical Society

1753088

DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to those hardy pioneer homesteaders who first sought a permanent home in this county. Their faith, foresight, and fortitude in the face of blizzards, droughts, grasshoppers, prairie fires, and loneliness made possible the establishment, development, and future of our county.

PREFACE

I have always felt that the teaching of state history would be more effective and more easily retained by the pupils if specific instances of a local historical nature could be cited when teaching a general subject. Instead of merely saying that the Dakota Boom in population lasted from about 1876 to 1886, pupils can be told of the speed with which their own county was settled by citing the actual census figures for 1870, 1880 and 1890. Instead of stating that railroads were built into the state from 1872 on, pupils can be told of the exact date when their particular county's railroads arrived. To cite examples of this sort to the pupils, teachers have to know their local history, and yet teachers move around in the state so much, and the sources of local history are so scattered, that few teachers are familiar with the story of the locality or county in which they teach.

Many teachers of South Dakota history feel that the teaching of the course can be greatly improved if sources and reference books are more readily available.

This social studies reference book has been compiled with this objective in view: to make it a ready source of information for the use of teachers and pupils in the study of Units VII & VIII of the Sixth Grade Course of Study for South Dakota schools.

In carrying out this objective I have done the following:

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1. I have gathered together all the known historical accounts of the county which have appeared in print, omitting what has been published in special anniversary editions of newspapers or in books too long or too detailed to copy.
2. I have given the origins of all place names of towns and villages in the county.
3. I have compiled the census figures of all the towns and townships in the county from the earliest federal census to that of 1950. Thus the growth or decrease of population for any of the political units of the county, and of the county itself, can easily be determined.
4. I have compiled a list of general and specific references to the history and related subjects of the county, its towns, nationality groups, and institutions.
5. I have included two little-known and inaccesible, but excellent, accounts of the southeastern part of the state and the early history of the territory and state.
6. Finally, I have included, word for word, Units VII & VIII of the Course of Study for the Sixth Grade together with the page references to the most easily found reference texts and books to aid the teacher of these units.

I sincerely hope that teachers and students of these units will find the book useful to them.

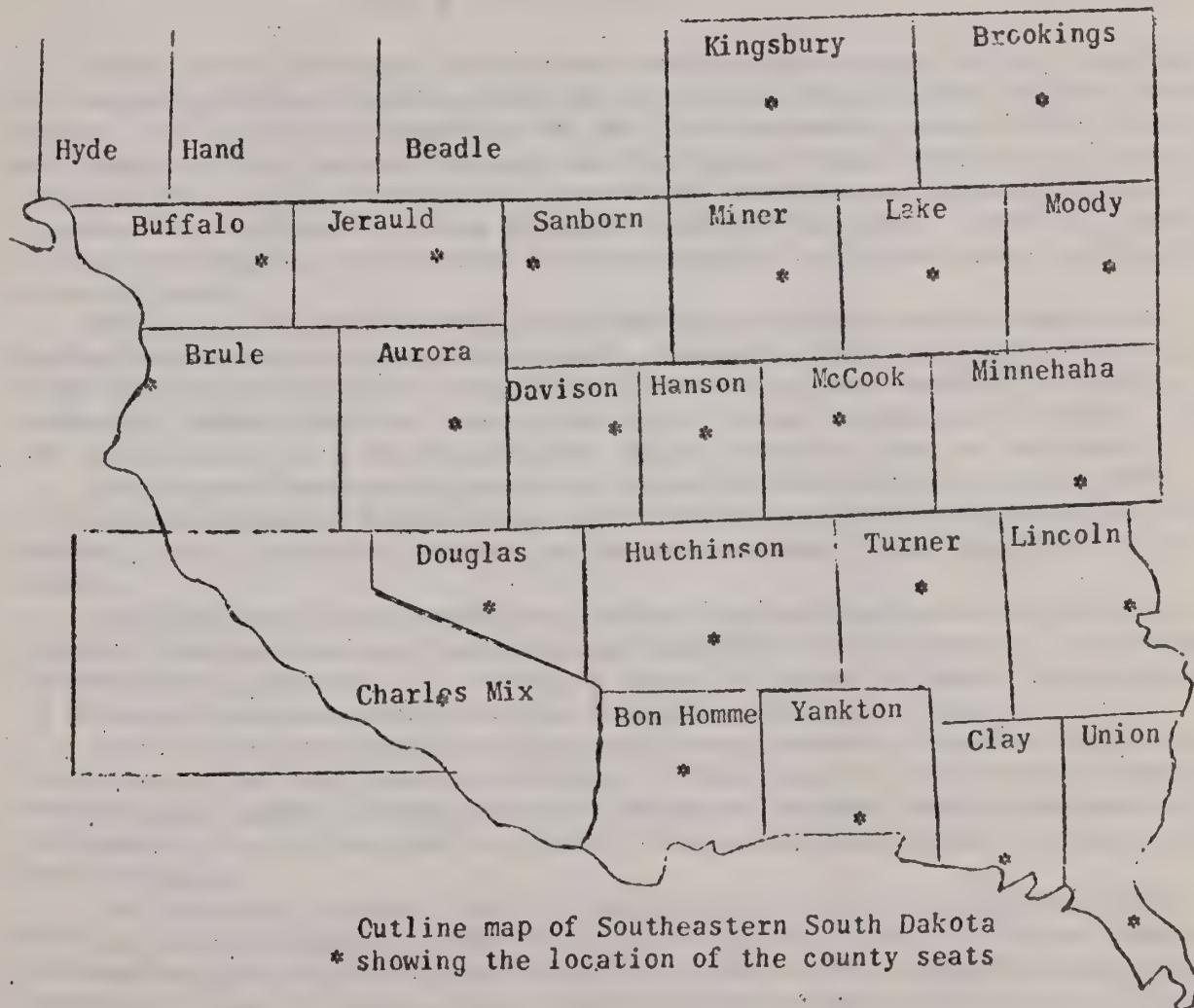
A final word: The historical accounts were copied out verbatim and the authors have not always agreed with one another in statements made, dates, spellings of names, etc. No attempt has been made to correct or point out these occasional discrepancies.

South Dakota State College
Brookings, S.D.
Oct. 3, 1959.

Donald Dean Parker, Ph.D., Head
Dept. of History & Political Science

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U N I O N C O U N T Y

Union County occupies the extreme southeastern corner of the Territory, the southern portion forming a cul de sac between the Missouri and Big Sioux rivers. The county is bounded north by Lincoln County, west by Clay County, and south and east by the Missouri and Big Sioux rivers respectively. It contains seven full Congressional townships, with the exception of a part of fraction 36, in Town 93, Range 49, and thirteen fractional townships, some of them very small, in all equal to about twelve full townships, or 276,480 acres of land.

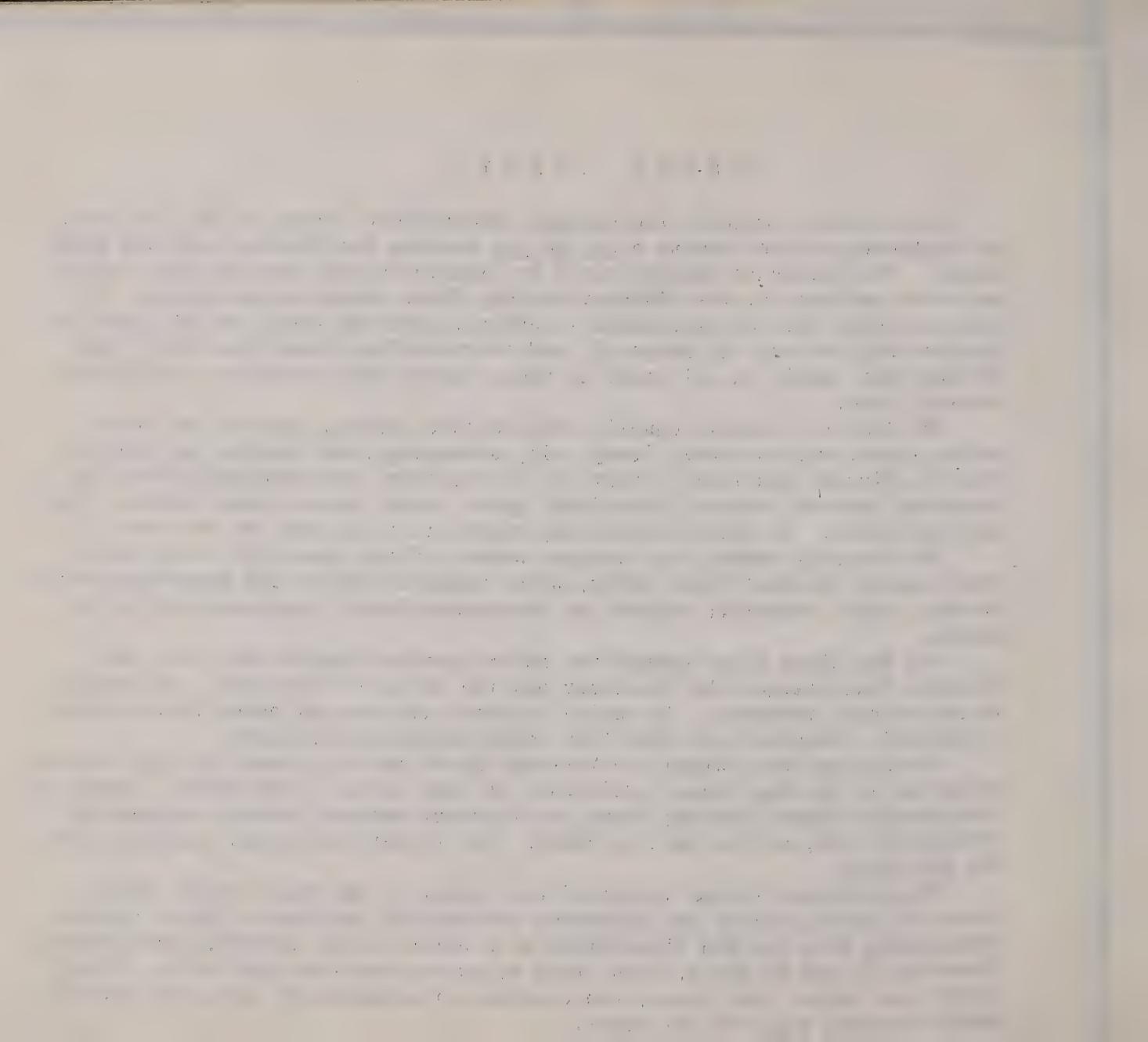
The county is nearly equally divided into rolling prairie and river bottom lands, with a black, loamy soil, averaging from two feet on the plateaus to five or six feet in depth on the bottoms, and remarkably fertile, producing immense crops of blue-joint grass, corn, wheat, oats, barley, flax and vegetables. As a stock-producing region it is as good as the best.

The Missouri washes the southern border of the county in a very tortuous course of about forty miles, with numerous island and sand-bars in its channel, and a number of marshes or low meadow-lands lying parallel to its course.

The Big Sioux River washes the entire eastern border and forms the boundary line between the Territory and the State of Minnesota. Its course is exceedingly tortuous. In making a direct distance of about forty miles, it probably traverses not less than 100 miles actual distance.

The bottom lands along the Missouri River are very broad in this region, extending to the Big Sioux, a distance of from three to ten miles. There is considerable timber growing along the Missouri bottoms, mostly composed of cottonwood, elm, willow and box elder. The latter also grows sparsely along the Big Sioux.

The principal inland stream of the county is the Brûlé Creek, which rises in Lincoln County and traverses the central portions of Union County, discharging into the Big Sioux River at a point on the township line between Townships 91 and 92 north, about four miles northeast of Elk Point. Other creeks are Union, Jim, Green, and a number of unimportant ones, but all valuable as water supplies for stock.



For civil purposes the county is divided into nine voting precincts, which may be changed at any time to civil and school townships, whenever the commissioners may deem it advisable.

SETTLEMENT.--The early settlements of Union County mostly concentrated around Elk Point, and Sioux Point at the junction of the Missouri and Big Sioux rivers. At this last named locality were a number of French Canadians, some of whom had previously resided at other places in the United States. Most of them were allied with the Indians by marriage and raised large families. Some engaged in stock-raising, but the greater number were hunters and trappers, who built log cabins in some sheltered spot, and perhaps cultivated a few acres in corn and vegetables.

The following, as near as can be ascertained, are the names of those who settled at Sioux Point: J.B. La Plant, John B. McBride, Peter Arpin, J. Chattellion, Adolphe Mason, Antoine Fleury,--Primeau. There were several others whose names are not recollected. Several of these, among whom was La Plant, located as early as 1848 or 1849. The latter is now in Charles Mix County, and the others have removed to various parts of the West.

The first settlement by a citizen of the United States was made at Elk Point by Eli B. Wixon, from the State of New York, on the 22d day of July, 1859, at which time he located a claim and began the erection of a big dwelling, twelve by sixteen feet in dimensions, one story in height, which he covered with shakes, over which was spread a heavy layer of earth; the earth also formed the floor. Mr. Wixon occupied this building in August following, and opened a public house for the accommodation of travelers. He also kept a small stock of groceries.

In the fall of the same year C. Maloney, William Mathers, and G. and A. Christie settled near him. During the winter of 1859-60 a band of about seventy-five Santee Indians encamped at Elk Point and hunted through the season. With these Mr. Wixon had a good trade. In the spring of 1862 several families settled around Elk Point, and about the same time M. Ryan located near the present site of Jefferson.

Hon. M.K. Armstrong, in his admirable history of southeastern Dakota, says the first house erected in Cole (Union) County was in 1857, on the bank of the Big Sioux River at Pacquette's ferry, probably at the crossing of the old Territorial road.

During the year 1860 Mr. Wixon built the Elk Point House on the town site in which he continued the hotel business, and managed his farm, cultivating sixty acres during the season. In the following winter Joseph La Barge and family lived in the new hotel, Mrs. La Barge being the first white woman in the place. W.W. Adams erected the Adams House the same year.

In June, 1862, Charles La Breche, from Dubuque County, Iowa, and the following eight families made a settlement in the vicinity of Jefferson: P. Limoges, D. brothers, J. Volin, and Octave Brouillette. In the autumn of the same year the colony was increased by the arrival of J. Brouillette and B. Fontaine.

ORGANIZATION.--The following is the section of the act providing for the organization of the original county, occupying most of the present county of Union. It was named in honor of Austin Cole, a member of the first Territorial Legislature:

Be it enacted, etc.,

"That the district of country embraced within the following described bounds shall be declared to be Cole County, to-wit: Commencing at the confluence of the Big Sioux with the Missouri River, and following the main channel of the Missouri River to the line between ranges 50 and 51 west; thence north to the line between towns 93 and 94 north; thence east to the Big Sioux River; thence down the channel of the said river to the place of beginning."

"Approved April 10, 1862.

"Wm. Jayne"

A separate act provided,

"That the county seat of Cole County be and the same is hereby located on the claim of Joseph Chapillion, on Section 10, Town 89, Range 48."

"Approved May 7, 1862.

"Wm. Jayne"

At the session of 1864 the boundaries of Cole and Lincoln counties

were rearranged, and the former was changed to Union County for some good and sufficient reason. The following is the act:

1. "That the district of country embraced within the following boundaries shall constitute a county to be called Union:

"Commencing at the confluence of the Big Sioux with the Missouri River; thence up the main channel to the line between ranges 50 and 51; thence north to the north line of Town 95; thence east to the Big Sioux River; thence down the channel of the same to the place of beginning.

2. "And the county seat is hereby located on the point of the bluff, in the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 29, Town 92, Range 49.

3. "Nothing in this act shall interfere with the rights or seats in Council of M.M. Rich, J.O. Taylor, and John Mathers.

4. "All acts of William Frisbie, William Mathers, and John R. Wood as county commissioners; M.M. Rich as register of deeds; and A.R. Phillips as Judge of Probate for the county of Cole are hereby legalized.

"Approved January 7, 1864."

This act added two tiers of townships on the north to the original county, and diminished the county of Lincoln by the same amount.

The county seat location not being satisfactory, it was again changed by a vote of the people, in April, 1865, and fixed at Elk Point, where it has since remained.

There are no records of the county in existence of an earlier date than 1865, and it is impossible to give definite information concerning the original county officers; but it is at least probable that the names before mentioned as having their acts legalized by the Legislature, were the first.

The first term of court at Elk Point was held in the original log school-house, and presided over by Hon. J.P. Kidder. In 1856-6 the citizens of Elk Point erected a large and convenient frame court-house, at an expense of several thousand dollars, and donated it to the county.

The first local attorney-at-law was J.A. Wallace.

The following are the present county officers: Commissioners, H. Knudson, Charles LaBreche, John M. Peterson; Register of Deeds, A.O. Ringsrud;

Treasurer, George Stickney; Sheriff, James A. Smith; Assessor, H. D. White; Judge of Probate, T.W. Smith; Clerk of the Court, E.C. Erickson; Superintendent Schools, W.H.H. Fate; Coroner, J.G. Conley; Surveyor, Wm. M. Vinson.

The county is well provided with railway facilities, two branches of the C.M. & St. P. road passing through or near it; one along the valley of the Missouri, and the other, diverging from the main line at Elk Point, traversing the valley of the Big Sioux River.

A branch of the C. & N.W. road crosses the north end of the county, and the Dakota & Great Southern road, which is being located, passes diagonally, from northwest to southeast, through the northern and central portions of the county. The present population of the county is estimated, by competent authority, at 9,000.

The county has a bonded indebtedness of \$24,000, with ample funds in the treasury to meet expenses and liquidate its debt. The latest assessed valuation is \$1,100,000, which is probably not more than one-third the actual value. County warrants are at par.

ELK POINT.--This place was first settled, as before stated, by E.B. Wixon, in July, 1859. The town was surveyed and incorporated as a village by an act of the Legislature approved April 24, 1862. The first officers were: John R. Wood, President; E.B. Wixon, Recorder; Myron Sheldon, Wm. W. Adams, Preston M. Hotchkiss. It was incorporated as a city January 10, 1873. The first city officers were: Mayor, H.H. Blair; Aldermen, E.B. Wixon, J.M. Talcott; Clerk, McKinsey Kane; Treasurer, J.W. Hoffman; Justice, J.A. Wallace; Marshal, A.H. Stringer. The present city officers are: Mayor, J.M. Talcott; Aldermen, J.R. Wood, Charles Murtha, M. Huffman; Clerk, Ira L. Nicholls; Treasurer, J.H. Bryan; Justice, E.C. Soutar; Street Commissioner, A. Strouble; Marshal, B. Crum.

The first school building of logs was erected in 1861, and the first school taught by N.J. Wallace, afterward Receiver of the United States Land Office at Vermillion. The original school-house, which was used by the courts and for various other purposes, was destroyed by fire in the winter of 1872-3. Succeeding this disaster a school was taught in the church of the United Brethren until the new school building was erected. This was in the summer of 1877, and the house cost \$4,000. The school is divided into four departments, under the graded system, and under a competent board of education and an excellent corps of teachers is in a flourishing condition.



Dakota is becoming justly noted for its good schools, and Elk Point is behind none of her sister towns in educational matters.

A post-office was first established in 1860, and E.B. Wixon was appointed Postmaster. The mail at that time was carried through the valley from Sioux City to Fort Randall once a week by a four-mule team.

The Indian massacres in Minnesota and at Sioux Falls in the fall of 1862 created immense excitement among the people of Elk Point and Union County. A military company was organized and mustered into the service of the United States by General Sully in the spring of 1863, as Company B, First Dakota Cavalry. William Tripp was captain and John R. Wood first lieutenant. Wixon's Hotel was metamorphosed into a border fortress and every possible preparation made for a stubborn defense; but happily the war cloud passed over without serious consequences to the people of Dakota.

The first birth in Elk Point was a son to the wife of Joseph La Barge, in the spring of 1861; and the first death was that of William Wallace Tripp, on the 19th of February, 1863.

The first regular store in the place was established by Fairchild & Green, in 1865, and the second by J.W. Vandevere in 1866. In March, 1868, Messrs. Northup & Beggs opened a small grocery and dry goods establishment, and in the fall of the same year erected one of the largest business buildings in southeastern Dakota. In that year Mr. Emory Morris built a fine store and opened a general stock. In the summer of 1869 B.F. Smith built a store and put in a large stock of dry goods and groceries, and about the same time the Talcott Brothers put up a large two-story building and began business in the furniture line. In the fall of that year D.W.C. Smith, M.D., erected a two-story building and opened a drug store.

The present mercantile business of Elk Point is conducted by four firms engaged in general merchandising, four in groceries and provisions, two drugs and books, three hardware, two furniture, two butter and eggs, one flour and feed, two jewelry, one lumber, four bakery and confectionery, one clothing and gents' furnishing goods, one millinery and one merchant tailoring establishment. There are two hotels, one bank, eight attorneys, five physicians, three real estate firms, two grain dealers having implements, three meat markets, three hog and cattle buyers, four wood dealers, two restaurants, a local board of underwriters, two livery stables, seven carpenters and plas-

terers, two wagon makers, a photographer, a barber, and other small institutions.

In the manufacturing line there are a large steam flouring mill, the "Dakota Mills," with a capacity of 125 barrels of flour daily, doing a business of \$150,000 annually; a large creamery, producing 200,000 pounds of butter in the course of the year; a pump and wind-mill factory, two blacksmithing firms, a manufactory of washing machines, an apiary and bee-hive factory, a shoemaker, a manufactory of brick, a harness maker, etc.

Elk Point is an excellent marketing place, and large amounts of grain, flour, general produce, lumber, coal, wood, cattle and hogs are handled by the various dealers.

CHURCHES.--The first religious services held in Elk Point were in the winter of 1860, when Rev. C.D. Martin, long a prominent citizen of the Missouri valley, preached a sermon in the place. Rev. Martin was a Congregational or Presbyterian minister and prominent in the early history of Yankton.

The Methodist Episcopal Church appears to have been the first organization in the place. A church was gathered and organized in 1865 by Elder Kane. The society at first held meetings at Brûlé Creek, but eventually removed and made permanent investments at Elk Point. Their first services were held in the old school building and in the court house. A church edifice was erected in 1870, at a cost of \$1,000.

Saint Andrew's Episcopal Society was organized and established as a mission by Rev. Dr. Hoyt, Dean of Dakota. A church was erected at Elk Point in 1868, at an expense of \$1,000, partly by contributions from New York and Philadelphia. The building was occupied alternately by the Episcopalians and Congregationalists, until the latter built a church of their own.

The United Brethren Society was organized toward the latter part of the year 1870 by J.E. Hott, a missionary who had been sent from Ohio. The house of this society, which is the most capacious of any in the place, was dedicated October 11, 1879. Its cost was \$3,000.

The first Baptist Church was organized March 11, 1871, by Rev. George W. Freeman, general missionary of the American Baptist Home Missionary Society, with eleven members. A house of worship was erected in the spring of 1873, at a cost of \$1,200.

The Congregational Society was organized in 1872, by Rev. Mr. Shelton, general missionary for Dakota. The society for a time occupied the Episcopal church until they could erect a building of their own.

St. Joseph's Catholic Church was the latest religious organization, coming into existence in 1879. In 1880-81 the society had become strong enough with a little outside assistance to erect a church edifice 72 x 35 feet in dimensions, at a cost of \$3,000. The communicants include about fifty families. The first regular resident priest was Rev. Father John Brogan. All the religious societies in Elk Point are in a healthy condition.

SECRET ORDERS.--These are well represented, and include Elk Point Lodge, No. 3, A.F. & A.M., instituted under charter granted by the Iowa jurisdiction, June 7, 1871. Its original number was 288 in the Iowa list. It was re-chartered by the Grand Lodge of Dakota, July 21, 1875.

Elk Point Lodge, No. 4, I.O.O.F., chartered December 30, 1872. Hesperian Encampment, No. 3, I.O.O.F., Chartered June 18, 1875, and Elk Point Lodge, No. 6, I.O.G.T., chartered August, 1881.

The Centennial Cornet Band was organized in 1876, with fifteen members.

NEWSPAPERS.--The first newspaper established at Elk Point was the Leader, by F.O. Wisner, its first issue bearing date March 17, 1870. In April, 1871, the office and contents were destroyed by fire. On the 24th of November, in the last-named year, Mr. L.B. Redpath commenced the publication of a paper which he named the Union County Courier. He only issued two numbers when he sold the property to the Courier Publishing Company, the members of which were H.H. Blair, J.M. Talcott and C.M. Northup. On the 19th of June, 1872, the establishment was purchased by C.F. Mallahan, who has since continued its publication. It is a handsome eight-column folio, all printed at home, ably edited, and having a good circulation.

Elk Point is finely situated on the higher level of the Missouri bottom lands, with pleasant surroundings and a good business. It is about two miles in a direct line from the Missouri River, and two and a half from the Big Sioux, and so completely embowered in shade as to excel every other town in Dakota in this respect. It has never been disturbed by floods, excepting in the spring of 1881, during the memorable overflow of the Missouri, when for a short time some of its streets were under water. The population is claimed by its citizens to be about 1,200, with a slow but steady increase.



The town is mostly built of wood, and therefore liable to destructive fires; but cheap frames will eventually give way to brick and stone, which always come sooner or later in every business town. The Courier of March 12, 1884, publishes a fine wood-cut view of the south part of the town as seen from the railway.

Other towns and post-offices in Union County are Beresford, Alcester, Richland, Jefferson, McCook, Gothland, Sunny Side, Grove Hill, Emmett and Big Springs.

Beresford is a new and growing town near the northwest corner of the county, on the new branch of the Chicago and Northwestern railway. It was founded in the spring of 1883, and promises to become a good trading point. Alcester is a small station on the same line. The projected Dakota & Great Southern railway will traverse about twenty miles of the county, and probably make a point of the old hamlet of Richland. It may also build up one or two new towns in the north part of the county.

There are several churches in various parts of the county, and a large number of district school buildings.

(Copied from pages 134-136 of Alfred T. Andreas' Historical Atlas of Dakota, 1884.)

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U N I O N C O U N T Y

Area, 276,480 acres. Created and organized as Cole county, in 1862, in honor of Austin Cole, a member of the first Territorial Legislature. January 7, 1864, the Legislature rearranged the boundaries of Cole and Lincoln counties, and the name of Cole county was changed to Union, with the following proviso included in the act, viz.: "All acts of William Frisbie, William Mathers, and John R. Wood, as county commissioners, M.M. Rich, as register of deeds, and A.R. Phillips, as judge of probate, for the county of Cole, are hereby legalized."

Union county is situated in the extreme southeastern corner of the Territory. The Missouri river washes the southern boundary of the county, in a very tortuous course of about forty miles, with numerous islands and



and sand bars in its channel, and a quantity of low meadow lands parallel to its course. The Big Sioux river, the boundary line between Dakota and the state of Iowa, flows along the eastern border of Union county. It runs an exceedingly devious course of as much, perhaps, as 100 miles in going a direct distance of only forty. The principal inland stream, is Brule creek, which enters the county on the north, and flows south, discharging into the Big Sioux, about four miles northeast of the city of Elk Point. Other smaller brooks, are Union, Jim, and Green creeks. Groves of cottonwood, elm, willow, box-elder, and other varieties of native timber, fringe the bottom lands and islands of the Missouri, and grow, sparsely, along the Big Sioux. The county is nearly equally divided into rolling prairie and river bottom lands. The country back of the valley is an undulating plain, in some places rather uneven, but always excellent farming and grazing lands. The bottom lands along the Missouri are very broad in this county. Soil, a black, loamy deposit, averaging from two feet on the prairies or plateaus, to five or six feet in depth, on the bottoms.

Miles of railroad in county: Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway, (Sioux City & Egan line,) five miles; station: Elk Point; (Sioux City & Yankton line,) twenty-three miles; stations: McCook, Jefferson, Elk Point. Total, twenty-eight miles. Chicago & Northwestern railway, (Hawarden line,) seventeen miles; stations: Beresford, Alcester. Total miles of railroad in county, forty-five.

Vacant public lands, none.

BANKS.

There are three banks doing business in this county, as follows: Bank of Beresford, at Beresford, Chas. A. Potter, president; R.Z. Bennett, cashier. Union Banking Company, at Beresford, J. Schaetzl, president; Henry Schaetzl, cashier. Union County Bank, at Elk Point, Geo. Schaetzl, cashier.

NEWSPAPERS.

News, J.R. Carleton, publisher, Beresford; Union County Courier, C.F. Mallahan, proprietor, Elk Point; Dakota Blizzard, Stephenson Bros., editors and publishers, Elk Point.

COUNTY SEAT.

Elk Point, in the south, is the county seat. It has a population of



1,200; school-building, valued at \$4,000; catholic, methodist, congregational, baptist, and episcopal church edifices, valued at \$10,000; court-house; opera house; flour-mill, valued at \$30,000; creamery, valued at \$7,000; brick-yards, etc. Assessed valuation town property, 1886, real, \$42,864; personal, \$31,097; total, \$73,961.

OTHER IMPORTANT TOWNS.

Alcester, in the north; population, 150; schools; church organizations; business houses; hotels; grain ware houses, etc. Beresford, in the northwest; population, 400; school-building, valued at \$2,000; two church edifices, valued at \$2,500; creamery, etc. Jefferson, in the southeast; schools; church organizations; general stores; hotels, etc. McCook, in the southeast; population, thirty; schools; church organizations; general stores, etc. Richland, on the Big Sioux river; population, 300; school-building, valued at \$1,200; methodist church edifice, valued at \$2,000; flour-mill; general stores; hotel, etc.

SCHOOLS, (STATISTICS, 1886.)

Number of organized districts, seventy-five; school population, 2,607; number of school-houses in district, sixty-four; average monthly pay of teachers, males, \$32.69; females, \$29.03; value of all school property, \$35,249.42; expended for school purposes during year ending June 30, 1886, \$22,234.57; cash remaining in school treasury, June 30, 1886, \$3,623.83; par amount of school bonds outstanding June 30, 1886, \$3,632.00; average rate of interest paid on bonds, nine per cent.; amount of school warrants outstanding June 30, 1886, \$2,830.23.

LIVE STOCK STATISTICS.

| Year. | Horses. | Mules &c. | Cattle. | Sheep. | Swine. | Valuation. |
|-------|---------|-----------|---------|--------|--------|------------|
| 1880 | 3,976 | 164 | 14,855 | 1,177 | 11,065 | * |
| 1885 | 4,569 | 162 | 15,288 | 1,423 | 11,726 | \$324,411 |
| 1886 | 4,771 | 155 | 17,035 | 1,074 | 8,987 | 324,745 |
| 1887 | 5,141 | 143 | 18,917 | 599 | 9,335 | 581,126 |

VALUATION STATISTICS.

| Year. | Acres Real Estate. | Valuation. | Town Lots valuation. | Personal Prop-
erty valuation. | Total assessed valuation of county. |
|-------|--------------------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1880 | | \$ 554,893 | | \$ 261,336 | 816,229 |
| 1885 | 234,312 | 658,531 | \$ 60,814 | 90,067 | 1,133,823 |

| | | | | | |
|------|---------|-----------|--------|---------|-----------|
| 1886 | 241,903 | 675,651 | 66,205 | 98,258 | 1,182,859 |
| 1887 | 243,258 | 1,452,886 | 85,218 | 124,807 | 2,244,037 |

* 1880, personal property includes live stock.
FARM STATISTICS.

Table showing product of field crops, on farms in county, for years 1880, 1885, and 1887.

| | Bushels in
1880. | Bushels in
1885. | Bushels in
1887. |
|-----------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Wheat | 13,023 | 131,979 | 294,000 |
| Corn | 305,189 | 1,279,050 | 2,250,000 |
| Oats | 30,672 | 405,097 | 855,000 |
| Rye | 1,626 | 9,199 | 8,500 |
| Buckwheat | | 97 | 1,122 |
| Barley | 2,344 | 47,480 | 84,000 |
| Flax | none | | 34,496 |

MISCELLANEOUS STATISTICS.

Population of county, 1870, 3,507; 1880, 6,813; 1885, 8,017. Lands improved, 1880, 89,846 acres; 1885, 160,281 acres. Number of farms, 1880, 1,246; 1885, 1,356. Average size of farms, 1880, seventy-two acres; 1885, 118 acres. Average assessed valuation per acre, 1887, \$5.97. County indebtedness, 1887, \$31,150. Potato crop, 1885, 57,379 bushels. Wool clip, 1885, 9,072 pounds. Dairy and other farm products, 1885: milk, 2,929 gallons; butter, 554,343 pounds; cheese, 2,055 pounds; eggs, 201,127 dozen.

NAME AND POSTOFFICE ADDRESS OF COUNTY OFFICERS IN 1887.

| Office. | Name. | P.O. Address. |
|---------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| County Clerk | J. N. Ellis | Elk Point |
| Treasurer | A. O. Ringsrud | Elk Point |
| Sheriff | Alson Bovee | |
| Clerk District Court | N. A. Kirk | Richland |
| Probate Judge | Jerome Mangan | Beresford |
| Register of Deeds | J. W. Ellis | Elk Point |
| Attorney | J. A. Wallace | Elk Point |
| Superintendent of Schools | W. H. H. Fate | Elk Point |
| Surveyor | Wm. Vinson | Elk Point |
| Coroner | J. G. Conley | Elk Point |



Commissioners

Halver Knudson
 C.H. Williams
 Chas. LaBreche

Biule
 Calliope, Iowa
 Jefferson

Alcester

Elk Point
 Emmet
 Gothland
 Jefferson

McCook
 Richland
 Spink

Beresford

Big Springs

Brule

LIST OF POSTOFFICES IN COUNTY, 1887.

(Copied from pages 479-481 in the Resources of Dakota, 1887.)

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U N I O N C O U N T Y
 BY HON. EMORY MORRIS, ELK POINT.

The first settlement of Union county in the progress of civilization may properly be dated from about 1855. At that time Christopher Malone settled in what is now Big Sioux township, and remained there until the time of his death. Adolph Mason had been in the same township two years prior to this date, but subsequently left the territory and returned again in 1856, and from that time remained a permanent resident to the time of his death, about five years ago. Antoine Fleurie and Joseph Shay settled in the same township in 1857. Eli B. Wixson, David Benjamin and Stephen Horton settled in this county in 1859. Mr. Wixson and Mr. Benjamin located claims at Elk Point, and Mr. Horton north on Brule creek. There were quite a number of others, but those seven men were perhaps a majority of the white male citizens of the county prior to 1860.

The following letter furnishes so complete a word picture of the pioneer experiences of hundreds of others, that it is subjoined verbatim and will be of interest to every reader in the county and state.

Orlando, Fla., Sept. 13, 1901.

Hon. E. Morris

Elk Point, S.D.

My Dear Sir:

Replying to your valued favor of Aug. 13, I regret most sincerely that

I was unable to be present at the Old Settlers' Picnic and Reunion on Aug. 27th. I am sure that my own disappointment was keener than that of any one of those old friends who hoped to meet me there.

If the proceedings were published, will it be asking too much to request a copy to my Florida address?

You ask me the date of my settlement, etc. My brother Albert and myself first located our claims in the Sioux Valley in July, 1862. We had just arrived from Michigan, and were the advance guard of quite a contingent of settlers from that state, who later on located near us. After selecting a location, we purchased a few head of cattle, smong them teams of oxen, and I set at work to break up some ground for the next year's planting, and to put up some sort of a house for our families. There was no house nearer to our claim than Richland, where resided a man and his wife named Taylor. Their house consisted at the time of a covered wagon bed, which served as a sleeping room, and a small tent, which was general living room.

I had not even a tent, but slept in the open air. My brother immediately returned to Michigan for our wives and his two young children. They reached Dakota about ten days after the historical stampede, which occurred in the following October. He shipped our household effects to New Hartford, Iowa, and there bought ox teams and drove through, camping on the way. When about Ida Grove they met the stampeders leaving the country, who advised them that I had been killed by the Indians, and tried to persuade them to turn back. But they learned that I was alive and so came on. Meantime, I had built a log pen, 12 x 18 feet in size, and covered it with cottonwood boards procured at a sawmill at Elk Point, and had this sort of a house in readiness for the two families on their arrival.

Mr. Walter E. Bonney (now deceased), who lives on the Sioux five miles above Akron, came through with my brother from Michigan, but remained in Sioux City for a year or two before he moved to the then territory, although he selected his claim the following winter or spring.

In the spring of 1863, my brother put up a small board house on his claim, about three hundred yards from mine, and the two families lived and worked there during that year. The nearest neighbor on the south was at Richland.



There were no neighbors on the east, west, or north. There had been a small settlement at Sioux Falls prior to the massacre of 1862, but at that time the settlers all left, and the place was abandoned for several years.

In the fall of 1863, my brother was elected a representative from Union county to the legislature, and at the opening of that body in the winter of 1864 I was elected chief clerk of the house, with Keeler Curtis (A.K. Curtis) of Brule creek, as my assistant. This took us both to Yankton, then the capital, for that winter. I returned to the claim in the spring of 1864, but my brother had arranged to remain in Yankton. Thus myself and wife were alone and three miles from neighbors during the early part of that summer. Many a night at about full moon of the months, when signal smokes occasionally appeared behind some far away hill, we have taken our blankets, guns and pistols, and, when darkness settled down about us, sneaked back into the ravines in rear of our house, and, protected or hidden by tall grass, spread our blankets and camped for the night. We expected our house to be sacked and possibly burned, and we felt safer hidden away in the grass.

The Indians stole horses of our neighbors at Richland and Brule, and frequently cut off some settler, but we who were occupying the most exposed situation of all escaped. Just why I never knew. In the spring of 1864 I planted seventy acres of corn and about five acres more in Irish potatoes, onions, cabbages and squashes, thinking to find a market for my vegetables among the soldiers then stationed at Sioux City, Fort Randall and other points near by. But I met with what was probably the greatest disappointment of my life.

On August 11, when all was most promising, a cloud of grasshoppers swept down on the valley, and in less than one day my entire crop had disappeared as effectually as if a fire had devoured it. This left me with nothing save a little log cabin, my claim, farm implements and a few head of cattle. To make matters worse, my young wife became sick, and for weeks I watched with and nursed her. When she was able to travel I sent her back to Michigan, where there was bread enough and to spare; and I set myself to work to find some means of making a living for one.

I still fully intended to make the old claim my home, as soon as I could raise means to go on with my plans and make a success of ranching. But I finally got into the Sioux City Journal, lost my claim in a contest,

and then abandoned farming as a business. Pleasant memories come back to me of those old times. I knew every bend of the Sioux for a hundred miles. I new the hills and valleys, and I loved them all and still do. But a "Divinity which shapes our ends rough hew them as we will," decreed that I was not to live and die a Dakota farmer.

Yet while memory lasts, I will look back to those eventful days as among the brightest of a somewhat checkered career. And for those old neighbors, associates in the hardships and dangers which beset our paths, there is a wealth of love that only death can terminate. They proved their metal by their deeds, proved their worth by their loyalty, and their heroism by their fidelity to the purpose to which they had set themselves, and which has ripened into such glorious results. God grant them a ripe and happy old age, to enjoy the fruits of their labor, the development to which they have so largely contributed. Some day I hope to meet the reamining remnant of the old guard, a guard of honor to whom the present generation is so much indebted. They laid the foundation, in trials and in blood, and made the erection of the superstructure a possibility.

Sincerely yours,
MAHLON GORE.

Mr. Gore, the writer of the foregoing letter, filed the first declaratory statement for a homestead in Dakota territory. The claim being the one referred to in his letter, and is now one of the finest farms in the county, worth sixty to seventy dollars an acre.

The first white child born in Union county was Stanislaus Napoleon La Berge, who was born to Joseph and Mrs. La Berge, March 17, 1861, in a covered wagon near Elk Point, while on their way to locate a claim about a mile west of Elk Point, which is known as the Compton farm, and is now owned by Mr. Pearl. Stanislaus grew to manhood and died about four years ago near the Big Sioux river in Iowa. The first death recorded of a white person, was William Wallace Tripp at Elk Point, Feb. 19, 1863.

The first sermon was preached by Father Martin of Dakota City, Neb., in winter of 1860. First church was built by the Episcopalians under superintendence of Rev. Morrison of Vermilion, in 1867. It was a structure of 16 x 24 feet, built of rough cottonwood boards. Now we have twenty-eight good respectable church buildings, some of them comparing favorably with

many in the older states, and representing nearly all of the Protestant denominations, also the Catholic and Christian Science faiths. The first Sunday-school was organized by Rev. E.C. Collins (father of ex-State Superintendent of Schools E.E. Collins), at Elk Point, about 1864, who was the first resident minister at that place, and a Methodist.

The first school was taught by N.J. Wallace in 1861 in a log school house, built the same year at Elk Point. It was the first school house in the county, size about 14 x 20 feet, covered with dirt roof. Now there are in the county eight organized districts, and 3,479 scholars in the various grades, under the best approved methods of educational science. The first Good Templars Lodge in the county and probably in the Dakotas was organized at Elk Point in 1868, with E.C. Collins W.C.T. and E. Morris secretary. Now we have several organizations of W.C.T.U. and Y.W.C.T.U. and scores of other bands of workers in those lines of reform. The first G.A.R. Post in the county and perhaps first in the Dakotas was organized at Elk Point in 1868, with Captain Harvey Fairchild commander. There are now two posts and two W.R.C.'s in the county.

The first lodges of A.F. & A.M. and I.O.O.F. were organized at Elk Point about 1871-72. Each of these orders has grown and prospered and each has lodges with different degrees and chapters at Elk Point, Beresford and Alcester. The M.W.A. has six camps in the county, with large memberships. The Maccabees and Yeomen also have organizations in the county, besides several other orders.

The first post office was established at Elk Point in 1860 upon the petition of thirteen signers, and E.B. Wixson was the first postmaster. He kept the office in his log house and kept the letters in an ordinary cigar box. There were then about four mails weekly, carried by stage coach. Now there are eight daily mails crossing the county by railroad and fifteen rural free delivery routes, reaching every precinct in the county daily.

There are nine post offices, four of them, at Beresford, Alcester, Elk Point and Jefferson, being equipped with modern fixtures and doing large amounts of business. The first mile of railroad graded in the Dakotas was contracted by George Stickney across the town site of Elk Point in 1871 for the Dakota Southern railroad. Now there are forty-five miles of railroad in the county, running from twenty to thirty trains every twenty-four hours.

The first telegraph line crossing the county was one built from Sioux City to Yankton in 1871-72 by a company of which Percy and Clevenger were principal managers. Now we have the Western Union, running twice across the county, and six telephone lines.

The first term of court was held in November, 1865, in the log school house at Elk Point by Hon. J.P. Kidder. The first court house was erected at Elk Point in 1866, 20 x 30, two stories in height, all lumber being cottonwood. At that time it took nearly all the competent jurors in the county to fill a panel for the trial of a case. Now we have a beautiful stone court house, costing over fifty thousand dollars, the pride of the county, and so well advertised over the state that particular description of it here is unnecessary. When the first court house was built and for several years thereafter, county warrants were worth about seventy cents on the dollar and had to be carried for years before payment. Now a Union county warrant is as good as a national bank note anywhere in the county.

The first lawyer to open an office in the county was J.A. Wallace in 1869. Now we have about twelve lawyers, who are able to handle any business entrusted to them.

The first store was built, stocked and conducted by Harvey Fairchild and Robert R. Green in 1865. Their first stock consisted of a wagon load of sundry articles hauled from Dubuque, Ia., with teams. Now there are about one hundred and seventy-five business places carrying near a quarter of a million dollars of stock and fixtures, and representing nearly all trades and professions. The first bank in the county was established by Joseph W. Hoffman in 1872, named Union County Bank, with a capital of approximately \$15,000. This bank has changed hands several times, but still retains its name, with Julius Schaetzl president, Michael Hoffman, Sr. vice president, and Carl Anderson cashier. Now we have seven banks. The one above named, and First National Bank, at Elk Point, George R. Freeman president, Donald Grant vice president, H.P. Beckwith cashier; Beresford State Bank, B. Ross president, H.J. Medill cashier; Union Banking Co. of Beresford, Ole Ofstad, Sr. President, O. Ofstad cashier; Bank of Alcester, F.E. Watkins president, A.O. Abeel, cashier; Farmers and Mechanics Bank of Alcester, Ole O. Ofstad president, A.O. Ofstad cashier; Bank of Jefferson, E.E. Halstead president, W.R. Melvin cashier. All of these banks are safe, reliable



institutions, and a large amount of the capital invested in them has been accumulated by thrift and industry of the present officers and stockholders here in the county.

The first agricultural society was organized at Elk Point in February, 1870, with Jacob Kiplinger president and E. Morris secretary, and held its first fair one mile north of Elk Point in the fall of 1873, which was a grand success. After a few years the society lapsed and no fairs have been held for the last four or five years. The first printing office and newspaper was opened and printed by Frank O. Wisner, March 17, 1870, under the title of "The Elk Point Leader." About a year thereafter it changed owners and the title was changed from Leader to Courier. It has subsequently changed hands several times and is now owned and published by C.R. Bruce as Union County Courier. Now there are five regular weekly papers in the county, and all prompt and faithful dispensers of current, up to date news and literature.

The Old Settlers' Association of Union county, Dakota territory, was organized at Elk Point in June, 1889, with Eli B. Wixson president and E. Morris secretary. It has for its object the collection and preservation of facts and relics, and to transmit them to future generations, and also to promote a broader social acquaintance throughout the whole county.

The annual reunion and picnic of the association, which occurs on the last Tuesday in August, has grown to be the most popular and interesting entertainment in the county.

This sketch is only an index to the various topics presented. An interesting chapter of great length could be written on each of them, and scores of others just as important and interesting. But my space is limited and I close.

Success to the county of Union;
Their name is the emblem of strength.
May thy fair buds of promise keep blooming,
Till thy stalk shall obtain its full length.

(Copied from pages 207-208 of E. Frank Peterson's Historical Atlas of South Dakota, 1904.)



U N I O N C O U N T Y

Created and organized in 1862, Union County was first called Cole County in honor of a territorial legislator, Austin Cole, but it was given the present name two years later because of the strong union sentiment existing at the time of the Civil War. It was one of the first counties in the state to be settled and today has a population of 11,946 on its 452 square miles. The population is largely rural and the domain is marked by well-improved farms that raise large crops of corn and small grain, and practice intensive feeding of livestock.

Incidents pertaining to its history date back to the Lewis and Clark Expedition, for it was here in 1804 that the party stopped and shot deer while enroute up the Missouri River.

Early settlers were menaced by hostile Indians on one hand and by grasshopper scourges, prairie fires, and blizzards on the other. The story of pioneer days in the area is one of hardship, suffering, and discouragement.

In 1874 appeared devastating hordes of grasshoppers that swept through the country, ravaging crops and anything else they cared to eat. So desperate did the settlers become that in 1877 Catholics and Protestants alike joined in religious supplications for Divine aid to rid their land of the marauders, and a large black cross in the Jefferson cemetery marks the site of the ceremonies which ended the grasshopper plague until 1931.

In 1876 settlements had spread over all the county and several schools had been established. The county's population has been relatively the same since 1890 when there were about 9,500 inhabitants.

Elk Point was founded in 1861, and is one the oldest towns in the state. In the early 1870's a courthouse was built and served until 1898 when an addition was built onto it. Four years later it was further enlarged. No bonds were ever issued to construct the building. The most recent structure

is the \$100,000 grade school building completed in 1938. Despite its close proximity to Sioux City, Iowa, Elk Point is still an active farm trading point, having a population of 1,425.

Beresford, with a population of 1,618 is the largest town in the county. It was in this fertile region that the earliest settlers of the state first made their homes. It is in the heart of the corn-raising section of South Dakota, and normally about 50 per cent of the acreage under cultivation is devoted to this crop. Here is situated the Bethesda Home for aged and infirm members of the Lutheran faith as well as a children's home.

not

Jefferson was first settled in 1859, but/formally organized until 1885. It is the site of Lewis and Clark's first camp in the boundaries of South Dakota in 1804. Jefferson, an old French community, has a population of 493.

Alcester, like other towns in the region, represents an area settled by the first immigrants into the state. Heavy stock-feeding is a big factor in the community's wealth, and crops are raised largely with the idea of selling grain "on the hoof." The present population is 546.

There are 37 miles of paved roads in the little county and 243 miles of gravel. Two newspapers are published at Elk Point and one each at Alcester and Beresford.

(Copied from pages 105-106 in South Dakota, Fifty Years of Progress, 1889-1939.)

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Union County. Created as Cole County, 1862; organized, 1862; named Union, 1863, for sentiment; bounded on the north by north line of township 95, east by Big Sioux River; south by Missouri River; west, by west line of range 50, west of the 5th P.M.; thence east along said township line to the center of the main channel of the Big Sioux. Settled in 1859; county seat, Elkpoint. Area, 289,280 acres. (From Doane Robinson's Encyclopedia of S.D.)

UNION COUNTY

Union County lies in the southeastern portion of the Territory, and extends north and south along the Big Sioux River, about forty miles, and is about twenty miles wider. The Missouri River runs along its southern boundary for over thirty miles.

SURFACE

The surface of Union County resembles that of any of the Missouri River counties. It has, however, more bottom lands than any other county. The south half of the county is level bottom land, only a few feet above the high water mark of the Missouri River; the north half is rolling prairie, elevated about twenty feet above the bottom lands. The bottoms are perfectly level, and very smooth, presenting no obstacles to machine farming. The uplands are generally undulating, presenting to the eye a beautiful landscape of varied scenery.

SOIL

The soil on the bottoms is a dark sandy loam, mixed with a large proportion of vegetable mould. The bottoms are vast natural meadows, producing an abundant growth of excellent grass, frequently yielding over three tons per acre. The uplands afford an excellent quality of nutritious grass, but not so luxuriant in growth as that of the bottoms.

The bottom lands produce excellent crops of corn, wheat, oats and vegetables, but the uplands although capable of producing all kinds of grain and vegetables are pre-eminent for wheat. Thirty bushels of wheat per acre is an ordinary yield, while many farmers claim to have harvested forty bushels of excellent wheat per acre.

STREAMS

Beside the Missouri and Big Sioux Rivers, which run on the southern and eastern boundaries of the county, Union county has several creeks which empty into the aforesaid rivers, affording excellent water for stock. Of these, the most important are Brule, Snake and Union creeks, which empty into the Big Sioux. There are several beautiful lakes, which are quite small, but serviceable for the accommodation of stock. The Big Sioux has several waterfalls, or mill privileges, two of which are improved. Good wells can be had by digging from 15 to 50 feet. Many good springs are found on the

uplands.

TIMBER

Along the Missouri River, in the southern portion of the county, is large bodies of heavy cottonwood timber, which has been pre-empted by early settlers, and is now offered for sale in small lots, at prices ranging from \$15 to \$50 per acre, according to quality and location. Several steam saw-mills are located in the vicinity of these timber tracts.

There is also considerable bodies of timber skirting the Big Sioux River. There are also several beautiful groves of young cottonwoods of three and four years growth, ornamenting and enriching the farms of the earlier settlers, who at very small cost planted these trees and protected them from the cattle and prairie fires. Many of these trees when planted four years ago were small springs not more than two feet high, now they are thirty feet high and ten inches in circumference.

MILLS

There are several steam saw mills in the county in the vicinity of the large bodies of timber and which furnish lumber at rates varying from \$15 to \$25 per thousand. To most of the saw mills, shingle mills are attached and cottonwood shingles are made for \$4 per thousand. On the Big Sioux three miles east of Elk Point, is located Mr. Hotchkiss' grist mill, the first one erected in the county. At Liberty eight miles west of Elk Point, is the Curtis steam mill, which we are informed is intended to do triple duty; first as a saw mill; second as a grist mill and third as a steam sorghum manufacturer. There is also in process of erection at Richland on the Big Sioux, an excellent flouring mill, which will be completed early in the summer of 1870.

SCHOOLS

Union County was the first to organize a public school, and has since kept in advance of the other counties in the number of her schools, if not in their character. There are now in this county about thirty districts, in all of which a public school is kept at least one term in the year. The schools are free to all children, and are supported by a tax upon the property of the district. Union county has the best school houses of any county in the Territory.

CHURCHES

The Methodists are the most numerous sect, having several preaching places, but as yet no house of worship. It is in contemplation to build one

during the summer of 1870, at Elk Point. Rev. Fred Harris is Paster of the M.E. Church.

The Norwegians (Lutheran) have a church at Brule Creek, with a good congregation.

In the French Settlement, at Adalescat, the Catholics have a neat church building--one of the best in the Territory.

The Protestant Episcopal Church has some communicants at Elk Point, and will build a house of worship this summer, after which regular service will be held at that place.

Other denominations have their representatives in individual members, and occasional religious services are held at different places in the county.

TOWNS

Elk Point is the county seat, and the largest town in the county. It is located on the stage road from Sioux City to Yankton, about twenty miles from Sioux City, and contains about 250 inhabitants. It was settled in August, 1859, by E.B. Wixson, who built a house and opened a hotel. Mr. Wixson was the first postmaster. The town was incorporated in 1862, and 105 acres of ground platted by a town company composed of J.R. Wood, E.B. Wixson, P. Hotchkiss, W. Adams and M. Sheldon.

The first religious services were held here by Rev. M. Hoyt, (Episcopal). Rev. Martin held occasional services at Wixson's Hotel at about the same time. The first school was taught by N.J. Wallace, now Receiver U.S. Land Office, at Vermillion. The first practicing attorney at Elk Point was George Stickney. The first store was opened in 1866, by Fairchild & Green, but E.B. Wixson and others had previously kept a small assortment of goods. Within the last three years, Elk Point has greatly increased. It now contains three stores of general merchandise, one furniture store, one drug store, two boot and shoe stores, one dry goods store, three blacksmith shops, one meat market, three hotels, one billiard hall, one court house, one school house, one Masonic hall, one shingle mill, one brick yard, five lawyers, two physicians and three religious denominations holding services. The county officers also keep their offices at Elk Point, and the county courts are held there.

The Elk Point Leader is the name of a new weekly paper published at Elk Point, by F.O. Wisner; Terms \$2.00 per annum, in advance. C.M. Northrup is the present postmaster.

RICHLAND

The second town in importance in Union county is Richland, six miles north of Elk Point. The town is beautifully located on a level plateau, at the junction of Brule Creek with the Big Sioux. The town is about twenty feet above high water mark, and is located at the point where the level bottoms and rolling table lands meet. It was settled by M.M. Rich and others, in 1861, but its growth has been slow until within the last year. It now has a hotel, a large store, with a stock of general merchandise, a blacksmith shop, a cabinet shop, a postoffice and a public school.

A large grist-mill is being erected on the Big Sioux at this point, and will be completed in the summer of 1870. Richland is near the center of the county, and being easy of access from all directions, will at no distant day be a town of some importance. Christopher Thompson is postmaster.

Adalescat is the name of the post office in the French Settlement, on the stage road, eight miles below Elk Point. At this point there is a Catholic church, a school house, a hotel and store, and several mechanic's shops. Some of the best improved farms in Dakota are in the vicinity of Adalescat. Joseph De Puis is postmaster.

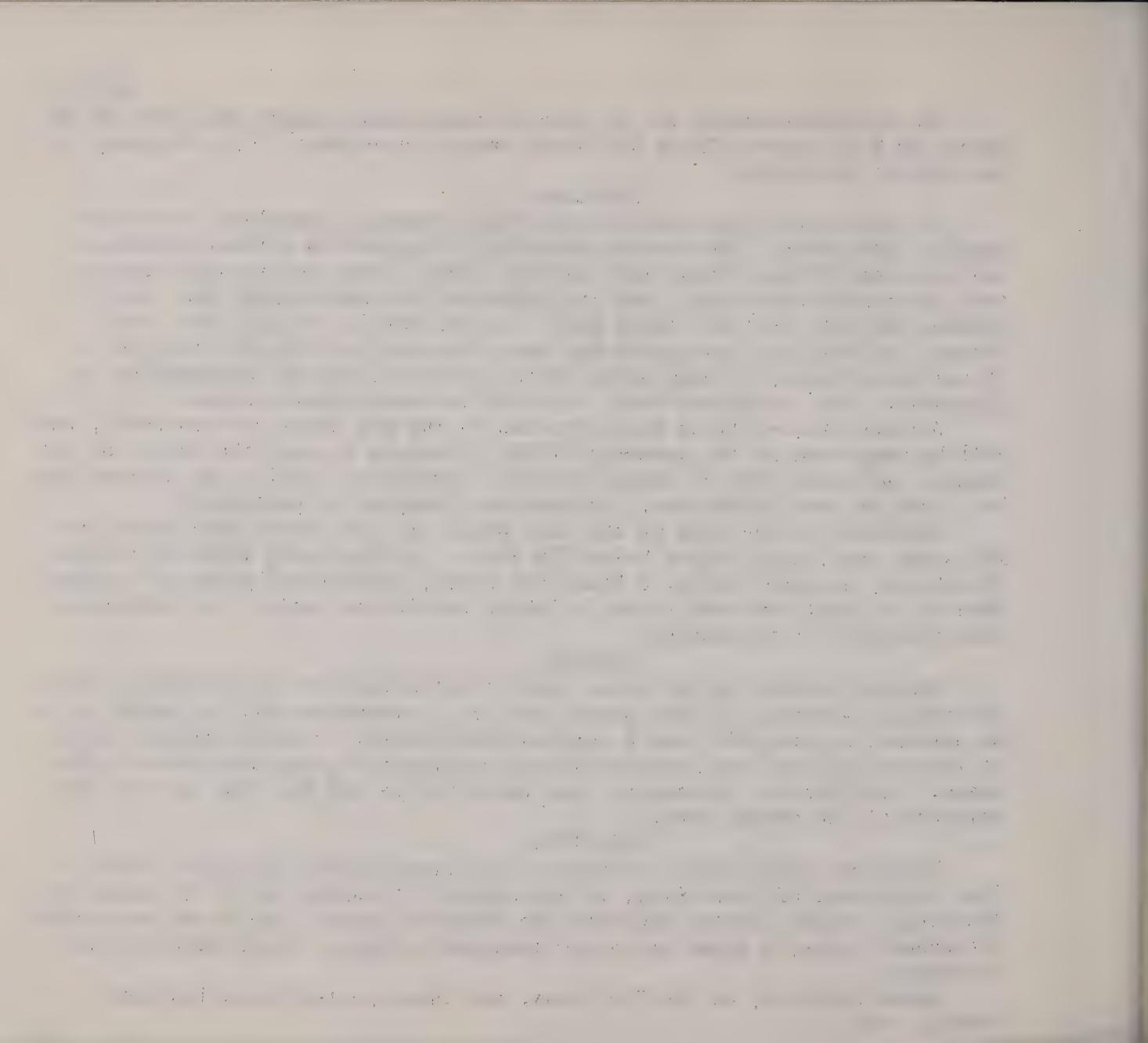
LIBERTY

The post office on the stage road, eight miles west of Elk Point, bears the name of Liberty. At this point there is a steam-saw mill, to which is to be attached a grist mill and a sorghum manufactory. A public school house is located here and the Methodists hold regular religious services at this place. N.G. Curtis, Postmaster, and James Curtis and his sons are the proprietors of the embryo town.

BIG SIOUX

The first post office in Dakota after crossing the Big Sioux Bridge, four miles west of Sioux City, is Big Sioux. It is located in the midst of a thickly settled country and near the Missouri River. Big Sioux has a public school house; a store and a few mechanic's shops. Benj. Bodia is the Postmaster.

Above Richland, on the Big Sioux, are three post-offices in Union county, viz:



Le Roy--I.T. Gore, Postmaster.

Sioux Valley--W.E. Bonney, Postmaster.

Virginia--James Green, Postmaster.

EARLY HISTORY

The first settlement of Union county was made by J.B. La Plant and a few others in the point below the Big Sioux bridge in 1859. Soon after Wm. Mathews settled below the 12-mile house, on the farm now owned by T. Gray.

In July 1859, E.B. Wixson settled at Elk Point. In the winter following, Wm. Adams, Myron Sheldon, David Benjamin and James Somers also located at Elk Point. In the spring of 1860, George Stickney settled one mile below, on farm now occupied by him. Mrs. Stickney is said to be the first white woman that came into Union county to reside.

In the spring of 1861, M.M. Rich, Dr. Phillips, Wm. Frisbie and Thos. C. Watson, settled at Richland. In 1862, Mahlon and Albert Gore located about five miles above Richland, on the Big Sioux. I.T. Gore settled at Le Roy, about six miles above Richland, and W.E. Bonney, at Sioux Valley, about five miles above I.T. Gore's. In 1863, C. Kingsley, Mr. Stewart and two sons, and three families of Norwegians, named Thompson, Johnson and Lewison, settled on the Brule. The families above named are mostly residents of the county at the present time. There was about forty families residing on the Brule and in the Big Sioux Valley at the time of the stampede, many of whom left the Territory, and have not returned. In 1864, several families belonging to the New York Colony located in Union county, among which are the Coykendall's at the Brule, and Phillips' families at Elk Point. E.C. Collins and others, from Michigan, also located at Elk Point in 1864.

Union County was the first to settle up, and now contains a population of about 5,000 inhabitants. It presents the appearance of an old settled country. Large farms have been opened and cultivated for several years, uniformly producing large crops. Large stocks of cattle are kept by the farmers, with great profit, as great quantities of beef is required to supply the demands of the Upper Missouri trade.

The following are the names of some of the county officers:

County Clerk--Emory Morris, Elk Point.

Sheriff--Capt. E. La Gro, Elk Point.



Treasurer--J. Kiplinger, Elk Point.
Dept. Treasurer--H.W. McNiels, Elk Point.
Supt. Schools--R. Compton, Elk Point.

(Copied from pages 114-120 in James S. Foster's Outlines of History of the Territory of Dakota..., 1870, reprinted in Volume XIV of South Dakota Historical Collections, 1928.)

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ORIGIN OF PLACE NAMES IN UNION COUNTY.

ALCESTER...was first called Linia, then Irene. The name was finally changed to Alcester by an English-born railroad official, in honor of a colonel in the British Army. The town was founded in 1879 by the Western Town Lot Company.

BERESFORD...was known as Paris in 1873, but when the North Western railroad was built in 1884 the name was changed to honor Admiral Lord Charles Beresford of England, who was financially interested in the railroad.

ELK POINT...was given the name because of the large number of elk seen near the original town site. The town was founded in 1860.

JEFFERSON...was named for Thomas Jefferson, third President of the United States. In the early 1870's the town was known as Adelescat, and an Elk Point newspaper of that period advanced an interesting story to account for the unusual name. A group of pioneers, traveling in covered wagons in search of a good place to settle, made camp for the night on the site of the future town. During the evening a pet cat, belonging to a young girl, Adele, became lost. The entire company turned out to aid in the search, which was finally successful. The party took a liking to the site, decided to settle there, and named the place for Adele's cat. The town was not formally organized until 1885.

STEVENS...was named for W.W. Stevens, who platted the town in 1922.

TABOR...was named by early Czech settlers for a town in Bohemia. It was founded in 1872.

(Copied from South Dakota Place-Names, 1940.)



UNION COUNTY CENSUS FIGURES, 1870 TO 1950.

| | <u>1870</u> | <u>1890</u> | <u>1900</u> | <u>1910</u> | <u>1920</u> | <u>1930</u> | <u>1940</u> | <u>1950</u> |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Alcester city | | | 381 | 409 | 492 | 460 | 581 | 585 |
| Alcester twp. | 110 | 680 | 645 | 722 | 770 | 697 | 617 | |
| Beresford city (part) | 404 | 858 | 885 | 1186 | 1148 | 1282 | 1323 | |
| Big Springs twp. | | 713 | 710 | 707 | 602 | 593 | 540 | |
| Brule twp. | 600 | 938 | 1057 | 547 | 485 | 536 | 483 | 426 |
| Civil Bend twp. | 570 | 608 | 680 | 593 | 477 | 431 | 460 | 366 |
| Elk Point city (4) | | 1081 | 1200 | 1470 | 1294 | 1483 | 1367 | |
| Elk Point twp. | 775 | 1863 | 965 | 835 | 660 | 739 | 724 | 562 |
| Emmet twp. (5) | | | | 720 | 793 | 750 | 658 | 553 |
| Jefferson town | 229 | 364 | 407 | 550 | 426 | 469 | 466 | |
| Jefferson twp. | 616 | 461 | 589 | 485 | 375 | 656 | 603 | 491 |
| Prairie twp. | 870 | 939 | 554 | 523 | 510 | 541 | 460 | |
| Richland twp. (school) (3) | | | 401 | | | | | |
| Sioux Valley twp. | 558 | 1120 | 799 | 695 | 749 | 702 | 596 | 529 |
| Spink twp. | 933 | 1114 | 722 | 669 | 644 | 596 | 546 | |
| Virginia twp. / (1) | 1290 | 648 | 582 | 603 | 659 | 599 | 517 | |
| T. 89, R. 48 (part) | 304 | 285 | 286 | 198 | 665 | 871 | 1091 | |
| T. 92, R. 49 (part) | | | | 440 | 488 | 439 | 353 | |

Total population for Union County by year is as follows: 2,503, 1870; 6,813 1880; 9,130, 1890; 9,130, 1890; 11,153, 1900; 9,130, 1910; 11,099, 1920; 11,480, 1930; 11,675, 1940; 10,792, 1950.

The 1870 census gave Union County a total population of 2,503, though the 1880 census gave it for 1870 as 3,507. The 1890 census gave Union County a total population of 9,130, though a later census gave it as 10,676. The 1880 census does not enumerate the population by towns and townships, except for Jefferson village, which had 90 people, and Elk Point city, which had 719. The county as a whole had 6,813.

Footnotes:

(1) The 1950 census states: "Township 89 North, range 48 West (part),

returned in 1940 as Big Sioux township; civil township dissolved since 1940." Part of Big Sioux Township was ceded to Dakota County, Nebraska, in 1908.

- (2) Beresford is mainly in Union County and partly in Lincoln County. The figures given in this table are for the Union County part. The following are figures for the Lincoln County part: 1890 - ; 1900 - 188; 1910 - 232; 1920 - 333; 1930 - 312; 1940 - 360; 1950 - 363.
- (3) "Richland township (school) formed from part of Brule township since 1900."
- (4) Elk Point was incorporated as a city in 1909.
- (5) "Emmet township organized from parts of Prairie and Spink townships in 1900."

(Copied from Federal Census Reports.)

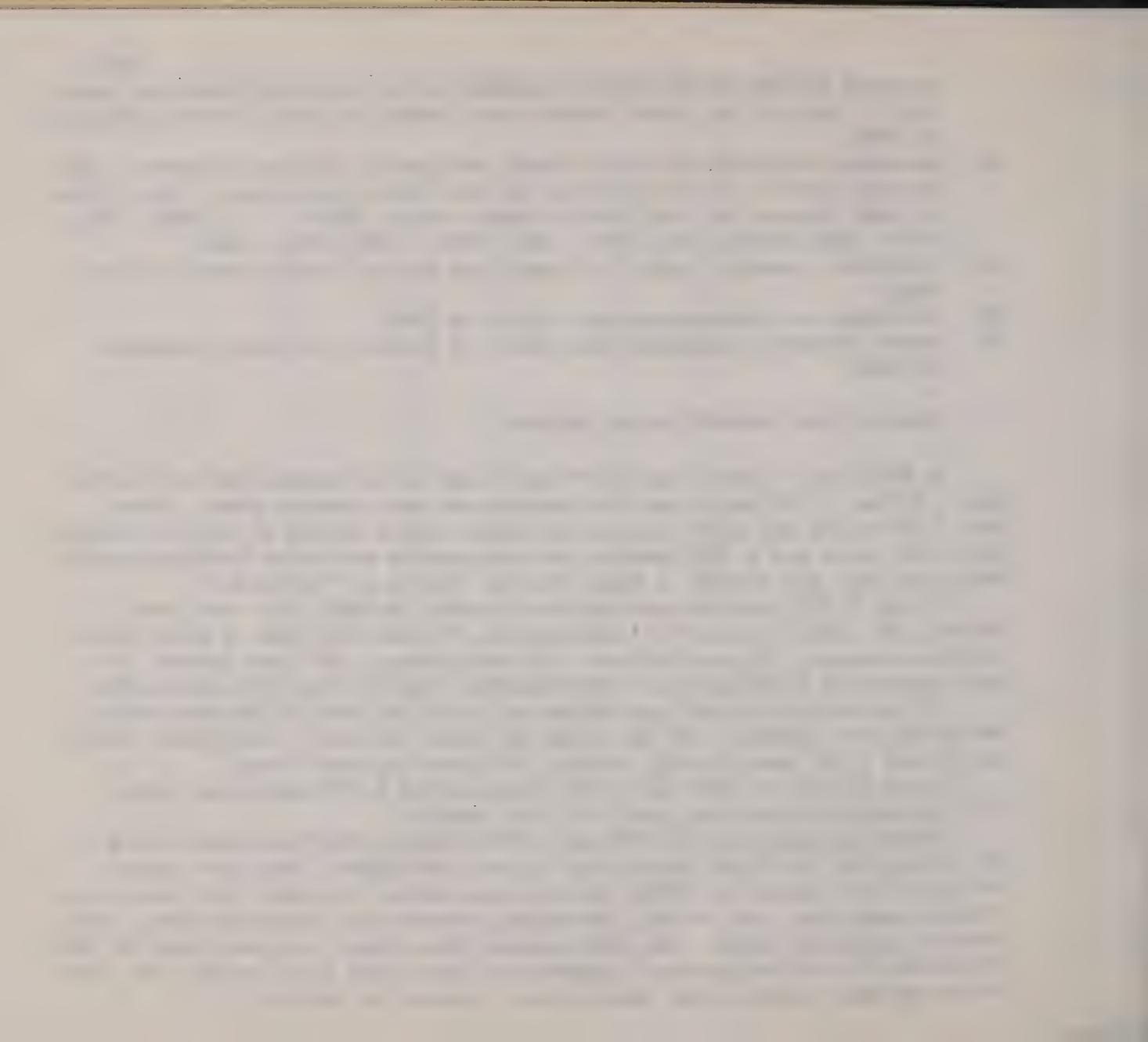
In 1890 Union County had 3,499 males and 3,316 females who were native born. It had 1,339 males and 976 females who were foreign born. There were 1,734 males and 1,613 females who were native whites of native parents, and 1,764 males and 1,703 females who were native whites of foreign parents. There was only one person, a male, who was listed as "colored."

Of the 2,315 foreign born in Union County in 1890, 453 came from Canada, 221 from Ireland, 87 from England, 19 from Scotland, 0 from Wales, 223 from Germany, 12 from Holland, 612 from Norway, 518 from Sweden, 136 from Denmark, 4 from Russia, 1 from Bohemia, and 29 from other countries.

Of the county's total population of 9,130 in 1890, 4,838 were males and 4,292 were females. Of the males 21 years and over, 1,230 were native whites and 1,162 were foreign whites, plus the "colored" man.

Union County in 1890 had 1,781 families and 1,748 dwellings, with 5.22 persons to a dwelling and 5.13 to a family.

Microfilm copies of the 1870 and 1880 censuses for Union County are in the library of the State Historical Society in Pierre. For each person living in the county, in 1880, the following data is given: full name, sex, marital condition, age, color, schooling, occupation, place of birth, and parents' place of birth. The 1870 census gives about the same data but adds the value of real and personal property of each head of a family. It also states whether a person was dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic.



ELK POINT.

The original name of the county of which the prosperous town of Elk Point is the County seat, was Cole, under which name it, in connection with a number of other counties, was organized at the first session of the Legislative Assembly. For reasons which were deemed good and sufficient, the name of Cole was subsequently dropped, and the county was named Union.

On the morning of July 22d, 1859, not a settlers cabin was to be seen from the Big Sioux River to Green Point, now known as Burbank, in Clay County. On that day Eli B. Wixon took his claim at Elk Point, and began the erection of a log building, 12x16 feet, one story, with earth for floor and roof. In August following, Mr. Wixon moved into this house and opened to the public a hotel and grocery store. Settlements began to be made about Elk Point, and Mr. W.'s house was well patronized. The following winter, seventy-five Santee Indians camped at Elk Point for the purpose of hunting. With these Indians Mr. Wixon's trade was good. In the spring of 1860, several families located near Elk Point, and the settlement began to prosper.

During this year Mr. Wixon built the Elk Point House upon the town-site, where he continued in the hotel and mercantile business, and also cultivated sixty acres on his claim. In the winter of 1860, Joseph LaBarge lived in the hotel, Mrs. LaBarge being the first white woman resident upon the townsite. The same year, W.W. Adams build the old Adams House.

In the summer of 1861, the townsite was surveyed, and by act of the Legislative Assembly, it was incorporated April 24th, 1862.

The first officers were: Council--John R. Wood, President; Myron Sheldon, William W. Adams, Preston M. Hotchkiss. Recorder--E.B. Wixon.

The first school house was built in 1861, and the first school was taught by Hon. N.J. Wallace, afterwards Receiver of the United States Land Office at Vermillion. The first sermon was preached in Elk Point by Rev. C.D. Martin in the winter of 1860; the first lecture was delivered by Hon. J.P. Kidder.

In the autumn of 1862, great excitement was occasioned by the Indian depredations at Sioux Falls, and a military company was organized at Elk Point. Mr. Wixon's hotel being turned into a block house, or barracks. In the spring of 1863, the company was mustered into the service of the United States, under Gen. Sully, as Company B, First Dakota Cavalry.



The first postoffice was established in 1860, with E.B. Nixon as Postmaster, which position he held until 1863, when A.L. Edwards succeeded him as Postmaster. In 1860 the mail was carried once a week by a four-mule team, from Sioux City to Fort Randall.

The first regular store was opened in Elk Point by Fairchild & Green, in 1865; the next store, in 1866, by J.W. Vandevere.

The County Seat of Union County was located, by vote of the people, at Elk Point in 1865. The first term of court was held in the old log school house, Hon. J.P. Kidder presiding. In 1865-6, a large and well arranged Court House was built by the citizens of Elk Point, and donated to the county. J.A. Wallace, Esq., was the first attorney to locate at Elk Point.

The first birth was a son, to Mr. and Mrs. LaBarge, in the spring of 1861; the first death, William Wallace Tripp, February 19th, 1863.

The town was located on section 19, town 91, range 49, and section 24, town 91, range 50. It was incorporated as a city January 10th, 1873, its first officers, under this incorporation, being: Mayor--H.H. Blair. Councilmen--E.B. Wixon, J.M. Talcott. Clerk McKinzey Kane. Treasurer--J.W. Hoffman. Justice--J.A. Wallace. Marshal--A.H. Stringer.

The first regular Baptist Church of Elk Point was organized March 11th, 1871, by Rev. Geo. W. Freeman, General Missionary of the American Baptist Home Missionary Society, with eleven members; and on the following day four were added by baptism.

The General Missionary supplied this Church until the following October, when J.H. Young, Esq., of Dixon County, Neb., was called to the charge of the Society, and in January, 1872, was ordained. The following July, he was called to the charge of the Yankton Baptist Church. August 1st, 1872, Rev. T.H. Judson, of Floyd County, Iowa, took charge of the Society for one year. Rev. J.P. Coffman, of Iowa, was called to succeed this pastorate, and continued his services until December 1st, 1872. During one year, this Society had no regular pastor. In November, 1877, Rev. Geo. W. Freeman was called to the pastorate, and is still acting in that capacity. The Society has reached a membership of more than seventy. Many members have removed farther west and to other sections of the country. The present membership is forty-six. The church edifice was built in the spring of 1873. Rev. Geo. W.



Freeman preached the dedicatory sermon, assisted by Rev. T.H. Judson. The cost of the structure and grounds was \$1,200.

The United Brethren Society was organized in the latter part of 1870, by J.E. Hott, a missionary, sent from Ohio, A. Potter and John Morris, assisting. Their church edifice is the largest in the town. It was built at a cost of about \$3,000, and was not dedicated until October 11th, 1879. The dedicatory sermon was preached by Bishop M. Wright, of Richmond, Ind. Rev. Mr. Hott was succeeded by the following clergymen in the order named: Revs. J.D. Snyder, J.H. McVey, S.J. More, D.T. Hutchinson, D.O. Darling. The present membership is twenty-four.

St. Andrews Episcopal Society was established as a mission by Rev. Dr. Hoyt, Dean of Dakota. This mission was continued by the services of Rev. W. W. Fowler, now of the Santee Agency. Rev. W.P. Huntington succeeded and was followed by Elder Himes, the present pastor in charge. A church edifice was built at Elk Point by this Society, in 1868, largely by contributions from New York and Philadelphia, at a cost of about \$1,000. Its seating capacity is about one hundred and fifty persons. The Congregationalists also worshiped in this building for a time. During Elder Himes' pastorate, he has taken great pride in making improvements, and has now the best furnished church building in the town. The membership is twenty-five, and the attendance at Sabbath School, of which Elder Himes is the Superintendent, is about seventy.

The Congregational Society was organized by Rev. Mr. Shelton, General Missionary for Dakota, in 1872. This organization was placed under the supervision of James Oakey. They used, for a time, the Episcopal Church building, which afterwards became the United Brethren Church. During the pastorate of Mr. Oakey, the Society had a membership of twenty.

St. Joseph's Catholic Church was organized in 1879. The church building was erected in 1880-81, at a cost of about \$3,000. which was contributed largely by the Catholics themselves. The building is 72 by 35 feet in dimensions. Rev. John Brogan was the first regular pastor appointed. About forty families are represented in the membership.

The Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1865, by Elder Kane. This Society held its meetings at Brule Creek, but afterwards removed to Elk Point. They have a church building, which was erected at a cost of about \$1,000, in 1870. The first services were held in the Court House and in the



old school house. The dedicatory sermon was preached by Rev. B. Mitchell in 1870.

After the destruction by fire of the old school house, in the winter of 1872, school was taught in the U.B. Church and in the Talcott building, near John R. Wood's livery stable, until the erection of the present school house. The present structure was erected in the autumn of 1877, and cost about \$4,000. It is a graded school, of four departments. The first teachers were: Ed. Cummings, Principal; O.S. Bryan, Grammar; Abbie Laird, Primary. The Board of Education at this time consisted of the following gentlemen: F.W. Smythe, J.A. Wallace, H.H. Blair. Present corps of teachers: Prof. C.A. Kibbling, Principal; Miss Maggie Jackson Butcher, D.W. Myers, Mrs. Emma P. Myers.

Elk Point Lodge No. 4, I.O.O.F.: Charter granted December 30th, 1872. Meetings were first held in a hall over Blair's drug store. Charter members: J.A. Wallace, J. Griffin Conley, Alexander Hughes, E.W. Miller, J.G. Hughes, G.W. Roberts. The Lodge now meets in Odd Fellows Hall, over the store-room of C.W. Beggs. The member-ship is about thirty. First officers elected: E.W. Miller, N.G.; J.G. Conley, V.G.; J.A. Wallace, Secretary; A. Hughes, Treasurer. Present officers: F.M. Budde, N.G.; A. Ronne, V.G.; E.W. Miller, Secretary; A. Stroble, Treasurer.

Hesperian Encampment No. 3, I.O.O.F.: Charter granted June 18th, 1875. Instituted July 5th, of the same year. Charter members: J.A. Wallace, C.F. Mallahan, W.E. Gant, A.E. Ronne, E.W. Miller, P.W. McManus, W.E. Caton, Alexander Hughes, W.J. Conley. First officers: W.J. Conley, C.P.; W.E. Caton, H.P.; J.A. Wallace, S.W.; E.W. Miller, J.W.; C.F. Mallahan, Scribe; P.W. McManus, Treasurer. Present officers: A.E. Ronne, C.P.; J.A. Wallace, H.P.; F.M. Budde, S.W.; E.W. Miller, J.W.; S.W. Kent, Scribe; C.F. Mallahan, Treasurer. The Encampment has twelve members.

Elk Point Lodge No. 3, A.F. & A.M.: Charter granted, under the Iowa Jurisdiction, June 7th, 1871, the number of the Lodge then being 288. The Lodge was re-chartered by the Grand Lodge of Dakota, July 21st, 1875, and re-numbered as above. Charter members: H.H. Blair, Elias Hyde, E.H. Webb, J.A. Wallace, E.B. Wixon, Preston Hotchkiss, P.E. Wagnard, C.W. Beggs. Present officers: A.O. Ringsrud, W.M.; H.J. Muhs, S.W.; W.M. Vinson, J.W.;



A.E. Ronne, Secretary. Meetings were first held in Masonic Hall, over Dr. Smith's drug store. The Lodge now meets in the hall over C.W. Beggs' store.

Elk Point Lodge No. 6, I.O.G.T.: Charter granted in August, 1881. Meetings were first held in the Episcopal Church. First officers: E.G. Mathews, W.C.; Miss Mary Wood, V.S.; Hans Murphy, Treasurer; E.C. Ericson, Secretary; Rev. George Ford, P.W.C. The Lodge adjourned temporarily with eighteen members, until a permanent place of meeting is secured.

The Centennial Cornet Band, consisting of fifteen members, was organized by Millard Zeigler. J. Coverdale is President, J.H. Bryan, Secretary, and W.M. Vinson, Treasurer of the organization.

The first newspaper printed in Elk Point was the Elk Point Leader, published by F.O. Wisner, its first issue being of date, March 17th, 1870. The establishment was destroyed by fire in April, 1871. November 24th, 1871, L.B. Redpath started a paper called the Union County Courier, which he ran but two weeks, when he sold it to the Courier Publishing Company, composed of H.H. Blair, J.M. Talcott and C.M. Northup. June 19th, 1872, C.E. Mallahan purchased the paper, of which he has ever since continued to be the efficient editor and proprietor. The paper is an eight-column quarto, is the only newspaper published in the county, and is in every respect a publication which reflects credit both upon its editor and the intelligent and prosperous community from which it derives its support.

In October, 1872, the Dakota Southern Railroad was completed to Elk Point. The business establishments of the town are extensive and well conducted, the class of business men, as a rule, being of that character which is calculated to best promote the interests of a progressive community. The population of Elk Point may be set down at from seven hundred to eight hundred.

Official Directory.

Mayor - M.W. Sheafe. Councilmen - Hans Murphy, Michael Hoffman, J.M. Talcott. Treasurer - J.E. Blair. Clerk - Wash. D. Percival. Marshal - Alson Bovee. Justice - F.W. Smythe.

Business Directory.

Attorneys - J.A. Wallace, E.W. Miller, Charles H. Walworth, George Stickney. Agricultural Implements - Michael Hoffman, Hans Murphy. Blacksmithing - J. Coverdale, J.H. Bryan. Barber - John Steckman. Broom Factory - A.D. Weed. Boarding - Joseph Steckman, Almon Gore. Carpenters and Builders -

Thomas Wilson, Ed. Quick, J.M. Talcott, J.R. Kent, E.E. Morris, Platt Vail. Druggists - E.C. DeWitt, H.H. Blair. Flour and Feed - S. Crumrine, Henry Fleming. Furniture - Benjamin Briggs. General Merchandise - George Ford, E. Rowe & Son, C.W. Beggs, Freeman Bros. Grocers - Flannery & Vassar, M.B. Gorham, F.M. Budde, J.B. Brubacher, John Mounsey, Almon Gore, A.E. Eddy. Grain Dealers - Freeman Bros., C.W. Beggs. Harness Makers - S.W. Kent, F.W. Smythe. Hardware - Michael Hoffman, E. Rowe & Son. Hotels - Merchants House, Elk Point House. Jewelers - A.L. Drawson, G.B. Steckman. Livery - John B. Wood, Uriah Wood, E.L. Pettis. Lumber Dealer - S.B. Stough. Meat Markets - F. Strobel, Warren Fisk, Henry Fleming. Mill - M.W. Sheafe, Proprietor. Millinery - Ella Wagner, Laird & Rich, Mrs. G.W. Havens. Newspaper - Union County Courier, C.F. Mallahan, Editor and Proprietor. Photographer - George B. Steckman. Physicians - J. Griffin Conley, G.W. Havens, W.J. Conley, Mr. and Mrs. G.P. Bennett. Real Estate - J.A. Wallace, Walworth & Percival. Restaurants - M.B. Gorham, F.W. Budde, Almon Gore, A.E. Eddy, Joseph Steckman. Railroad Agent - Smith.

(Copied from pages 191-196 in History of Southeastern Dakota Its Settlement and Growth... , 1881.)

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UNION COUNTY.

This county was organized by the first legislature as Cole county and the county seat was located about where the village of McCook now is, but in 1862 was removed to Elk Point. The earliest settlers were French squaw men at Sioux Point. Eli B. Wixson settled at Elk Point July 22, 1859, the first settler in that vicinity. The next year a large colony settled upon Brule creek. The inhabitants were largely driven away by the Indian excitement of 1862. Company B of the Dakota cavalry, was recruited at Elk Point, 1862-3. Milwaukee Railway, then Southern Dakota, came 1872. Northwestern, T.M. Stuart, 1869, J.W. Turner, 1871-72, E.W. Miller, 1872-74, W.E. Gaton,

1877-78, were superintendents of public instruction; John Clemantson, 1875-76, territorial treasurer; J.M. Talcott, commissioner of charities and corrections, 1889-90; Amund O. Ringsrud, secretary of state, 1889-93; H.H. Blair, regent of education, 1897-1901, are men of the county who have served in state offices. Area, 447 square miles. Population, 1900, 11,153.

(Copied from page 406 in Doane Robinson's History of South Dakota, vol. 1, 1904.)

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U N I O N C O U N T Y.

Union County, first settled in 1859, was one of the first counties in the eastern part of the state to have permanent settlements. It was organized in 1862, and had a population of 11,946 in 1935. It has a land area of 452 square miles.

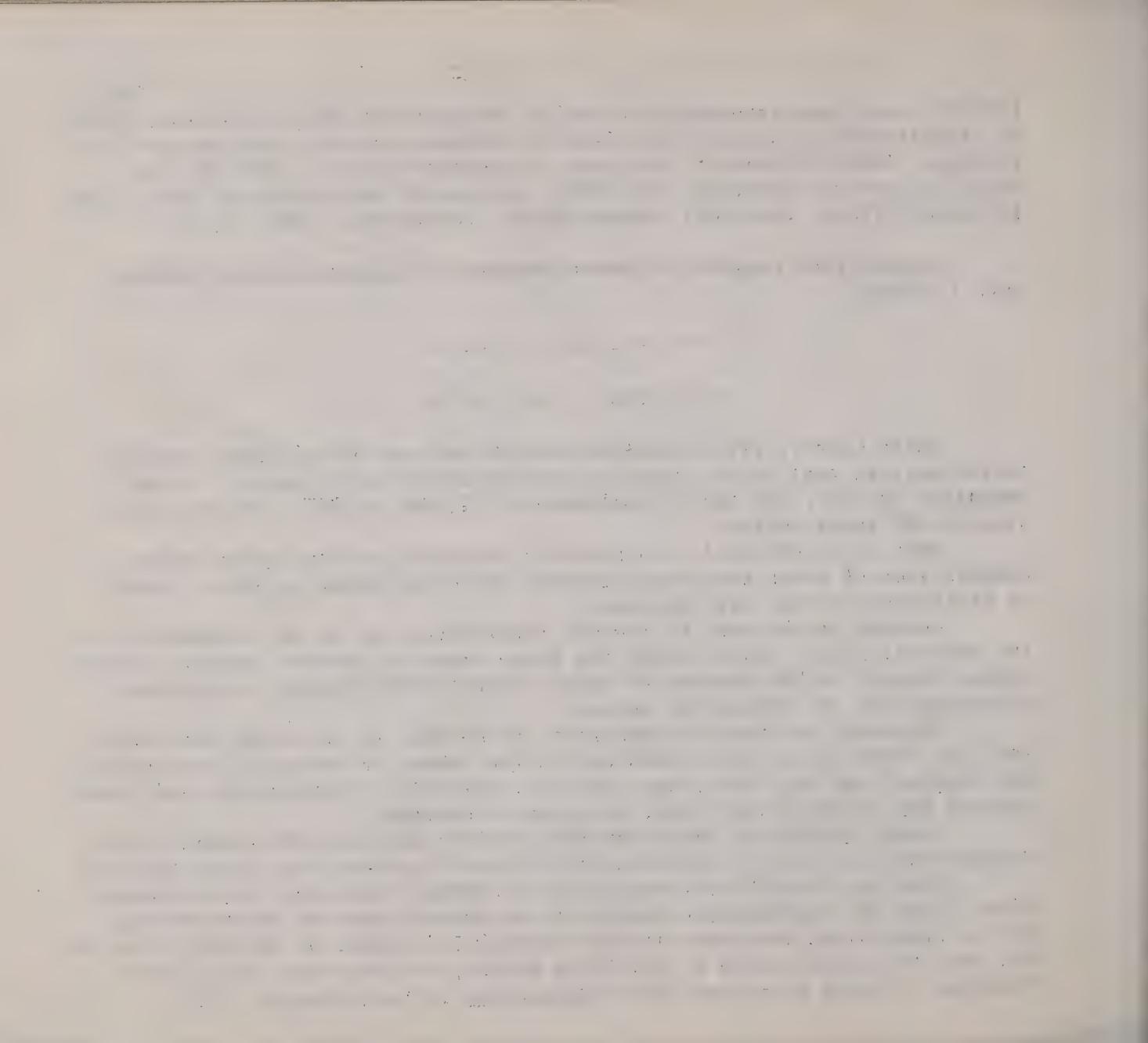
Many spots of scenic and historic interest are located in Union County, some of which have been proposed for development as local, county, or state recreational area projects.

Bounded on the east by the Big Sioux River and on the southwest by the Missouri River, Union County has large areas of secenic beauty. Natural timber abounds on the courses of these streams which provide exceptional advantages for the recreation seeker.

Pheasants are usually numerous in the fall of the year, and waterfowl are found along the streams and in the lakes. Fishing is good in both the Missouri and Big Sioux, and rabbits, squirrels, a few raccoon and other animals are found in the timber along their courses.

Summer resorts at Big Sioux Park, McCook Lake and other points are recreational centers for numerous residents of South Dakota, Iowa, Nebraska.

When Lewis and Clark entered South Dakota, they came up the Missouri River along the southwestern border of the present area of Union County. On the first night they were in the territory, a member of the party shot an elk near the present site of Elk Point which place was named after this incident. (Copied from page 170 in Recreation in South Dakota, 1937.)



EARLY UNION COUNTY POST OFFICES

The listing below shows the various post offices which exist or formerly existed in Union County, together with the dates of establishment, the names of some of the postmasters, and the dates of their appointments, and the dates of discontinuance or change of name. Dates are by month, day, and year. Abbreviations are est (established) and dis (discontinued). The post offices are listed below in the order of their establishment.

Elk Point: Eli Wixon 7-9-60. Willow: Wm. Mathers 8-29-61; changed to Adelscat 11-17-69. Brule Creek: Milton M. Rich 4-28-62; changed to Richland 3-7-64. Richland: est 3-7-64; dis 11-30-05. Big Sioux: est 1-17-65; changed to McCook 5-5-73. Grant: est 5-2-66; dis 11-19-69. Sioux Valley: est 10-7-67; dis 1-23-79. Virginia: est 5-4-69; dis 5-23-81. Adelscat: est 11-17-69; changed to Boreman 5-26-73. Le Roy: est 11-29-69; dis 8-17-74. Texas: Wm. O. Long 10-4-70; dis 1-27-75. Blair: est 4-5-71; dis 4-8-73; re-est 6-11-73; dis 2-25-74. Spink: est 3-5-72; dis 3-15-14. McCook: est 5-5-73; dis 11-28-87; re-est 5-19-94 Geo. W. Miller; dis 9-15-11. Boreman: est 5-26-73; changed to Jefferson 9-22-73. Gothland: est 6-25-73; dis 10-19-91. Jefferson: est 9-22-73. Alsen: est 3-9-74; dis 6-30-06. Sunnyside: est 6-12-76; dis 8-31-83. Grove Hill: est 11-19-76; dis 11-11-86. Emmett: est 1-24-77; dis 10-7-93; re-est 5-22-94; dis 8-27-00. Brighton: est 3-4-78; dis 12-4-83. Lennox: Chas. Mitchell 1-3-79; changed to Blair 5-24-80. Paris: est 31-179; dis 8-31-83. Big Springs: est 6-18-79; dis 12-15-02. Blair: Chas. Mitchell 5-24-80; dis 9-2-81. Beresford: David Stephen 7-13-83, Jno. R. Carleton 12-3-83. Alcester: Chas. A. Winn 10-17-83. Brule: Halvor Knudson 7-14-86; dis 12-17-91. Garland: est 2-14-89; dis 11-29-02. Nora: est 6-26-91; dis 8-15-06. Lamont: Andrew Martin 9-26-95; dis 9-15-02. Blaine: Carl A. Eveson 4-15-98; dis 4-25-99. Stevens: est 6-7-23; changed to North Sioux City, 10-1-52.

The exact location of these post offices may often be found by consulting early atlases and maps. Some moved around from time to time in a rural area as the postmaster changed. Often they were located at his home or in a nearby country store. The complete list of postmasters may be found on a microfilm at State College, Brookings. The data were supplied by the Post Office Department, Washington, D.C.



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TERRITORIAL AND STATE HISTORY

BY CLARK M. YOUNG, PH. D.
Chair of History and Social Science, State University

I. LOUISIANA TO ITS ACQUISITION BY THE UNITED STATES.

EARLY INHABITANTS.

The territory between the Mississippi river and the Rocky mountains is famous in Indian life and legends. Two linguistic groups of Indians successively held this territory and fought here for supremacy. The earliest Indian occupancy of this section of which there is any definite knowledge was by the Caddoan group whose habitat was mainly in Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Arkansas, and Indian Territory. Divisions of this group are the Arikara tribe, the Pawnee Confederacy, the Kitcái Tribe, the Wichita and Caddo Confederacies. Of these subdivisions of the Caddoan group the Pawnees were the most important, and were the especial foes of the Siouan group for many generations. Pawnee Indians even served in the United States Army in its wars against the Sioux. The conflict of the Caddoan Indians with the Sioux resulted in the supremacy of the latter, and the former were gradually pushed southward where the main remnant of them is today quartered in Indian Territory. The Arikara who were early located in what is now North Dakota were there surrounded by the Sioux and cut off from their fellows. The remnant of this tribe is now found on Fort Berthold Reservation, North Dakota.

The Siouan Group was the most powerful, perhaps, of all Indian stocks. It occupied the territory reaching from near Hudson Bay to the Gulf. The Kataba group of the Sioux included, it is believed, several Carolina tribes, and in addition there was a Virginia division to which belonged some tribes whose names were recorded by Captain John Smith. The Dakota division included the Dakota tribes and the Assiniboin. The Winnebago Tribe is a branch of the Sioux Nation which was evidently stranded on the western shore of

Lake Michigan when the Sioux were driven west by the Algonquin Indians. Some of the more important tribes of the Sioux people in the Northwest are Ponka, Omaha, Kwapa, Osage, Kansa, Yankton, Santee.

In the north, these Indians were divided into two distinct divisions, (First) the Mendeocantons, or Dakotas of the Lakes, and (Second) the Tetons, or Dakotas of the Prairies. There was more or less conflict and antagonism between the tribes and bands of the Sioux. The large area over which the Sioux were scattered gave the various branches considerable isolation, and thus differences in habits and modes of life, as well as differences in dialect, readily led to antagonisms. The Omahas, who originally lived in the southwestern part of South Dakota, were driven south by the Dakotas and forced to locate in Nebraska, where they disputed the territory with the Pawnees of Caddoan stock.

The Sioux for more than two hundred years were noted as the most warlike nation of Indians in the northwest. Mr. Riggs interprets this fact as due to the influence of three customs, viz., the scalp dance, the wearing of eagles' feathers, and the consecrated armor. The scalp dance is a dance of self-glorification, taking place upon the return of a successful war party having in their possession one or more scalps which they have taken. It is the celebration of their skill and triumph, and is thus described by Mr. Riggs: (1) "A hoop two feet in diameter, more or less, with a handle several feet long, is prepared, on which the scalp is stretched. The young men gather together and arrange themselves in a semicircle; those who participated in taking the scalp are painted black, and the others are daubed with red or yellow paint, according to their fancy; and all dance to the beat of the drum. On the other side of the circle stand the women, arranged in line, one of whom carries the scalp of the enemy. The men sing their war chants and praise the bravery of those who have returned from the warpath, and the women, at intervals, sing an answering chorus. As with other nations a new song is often made for the occasion; but the old ones are not forgotten. This may serve as a sample:

Something I've killed, and I lift up my voice;

Something I've killed, and I lift up my voice;

The Northern buffalo I've killed and I lift up my voice;

Something I've killed, and I lift up my voice.

"The 'northern buffalo' means a black bear; and the 'black bear' means a man. The 'lifting up the voice' is in mourning for the slain enemy. Night after night is the dance kept up by the young men and women, until the leaves fall, if commenced in summer; or, if the scalp was brought home in the winter, until the leaves grow again. On each occasion of painting the scalp a whole day is spent dancing around it. And these are high days--days of making gifts, feasting, and general rejoicing."

Eagle feathers were worn as the insignia of war honors by the braves. Whoever had killed a man or had participated in killing one was entitled to wear an eagle feather. Five braves might share in killing one man, but he who first plunged his battle axe or scalping knife into the foe was counted as having the first honor. The killing of a man entitled the brave to wear the feather of the royal eagle, but for the killing of a woman he was entitled to wear only the feather of a common eagle.

The armor of an Indian brave consisted of a spear, an arrow and a bundle of paint, together with some swan's down painted red. To these were sometimes added roots for the healing of wounds. These articles were given to the brave by an older man of the tribe who had, it was believed, the power to consecrate them and who could make inhere in them the spirit of some animal whose characteristics were admired by the Indians, as an eagle, a beaver, a bird, a wolf, a loon. Henceforth, for the brave who had thus received the consecrated armor the bird or animal thus invoked became his tutelar divinity, his armor god, and was not to be killed or eaten until certain conditions were fulfilled.

"At the present time the Indian population of South Dakota is comprised in the Sissetons and Wahpeton and bands of the Sioux, who have severed tribal relations, and are established upon lands in severalty in the northeast corner of the state; the Flandreau band of Sisseton Indians, who are quite civilized, and reside on farms in the vicinity of Flandreau; the Yankton, who have also taken their lands in severalty at Yankton Agency, in Charles Mix county; a party of Yanktonaise and Santees, transferred from the Mississippi Valley to the Crow Creek Agency, north of Chamberlain, in Buffalo county; the Cheyenne Sioux of the Teton family, at the Cheyenne River Agency, on the Missouri river, opposite Forest City; the Brule Sioux, an off-shoot of the Tetons, at Lower Brule Agency, below the mouth of Medicine creek on

the Missouri river; the Rose Bud Sioux, also Tetons, about one hundred miles west of the Missouri river, and near the south line of the state; the Pine Ridge Sioux, also Tetons, at the south line of the state just east of the Black Hills. The Cheyenne, Brules, Rose Buds, and Pine Ridge Indians are all semi-civilized, and are engaged to a greater or less extent in agriculture and stock raising. Many of them have vast herds of horses and cattle, and are wealthy" (2).

THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE.

Louisiana, as the country west of the Mississippi river was called, was discovered by the French. Joliet and Marquette penetrated to the region of the upper waters of the Mississippi in 1673, and in 1680 Hennepin discovered the falls of St. Anthony. La Salle made his famous exploring trip down the Mississippi, 1681-82, reaching the river by way of the Great Lakes and the Chicago-Illinois portage. He took formal possession of this vast valley in the name of his sovereign, Louis XIV. The first settlement in Louisiana was made in 1699 by the French on one of the islands east of the mouth of the Mississippi, but was later removed to the shore of Mobile Bay. In 1718 New Orleans was founded. With this settlement made, France then possessed the two gateways as well as the two great highways to the interior of the continent, and her next effort was to establish a line of trading posts and forts down the St. Lawrence and the Great Lakes to connect with the line that slowly pushed its way up the Mississippi-Ohio Valley.

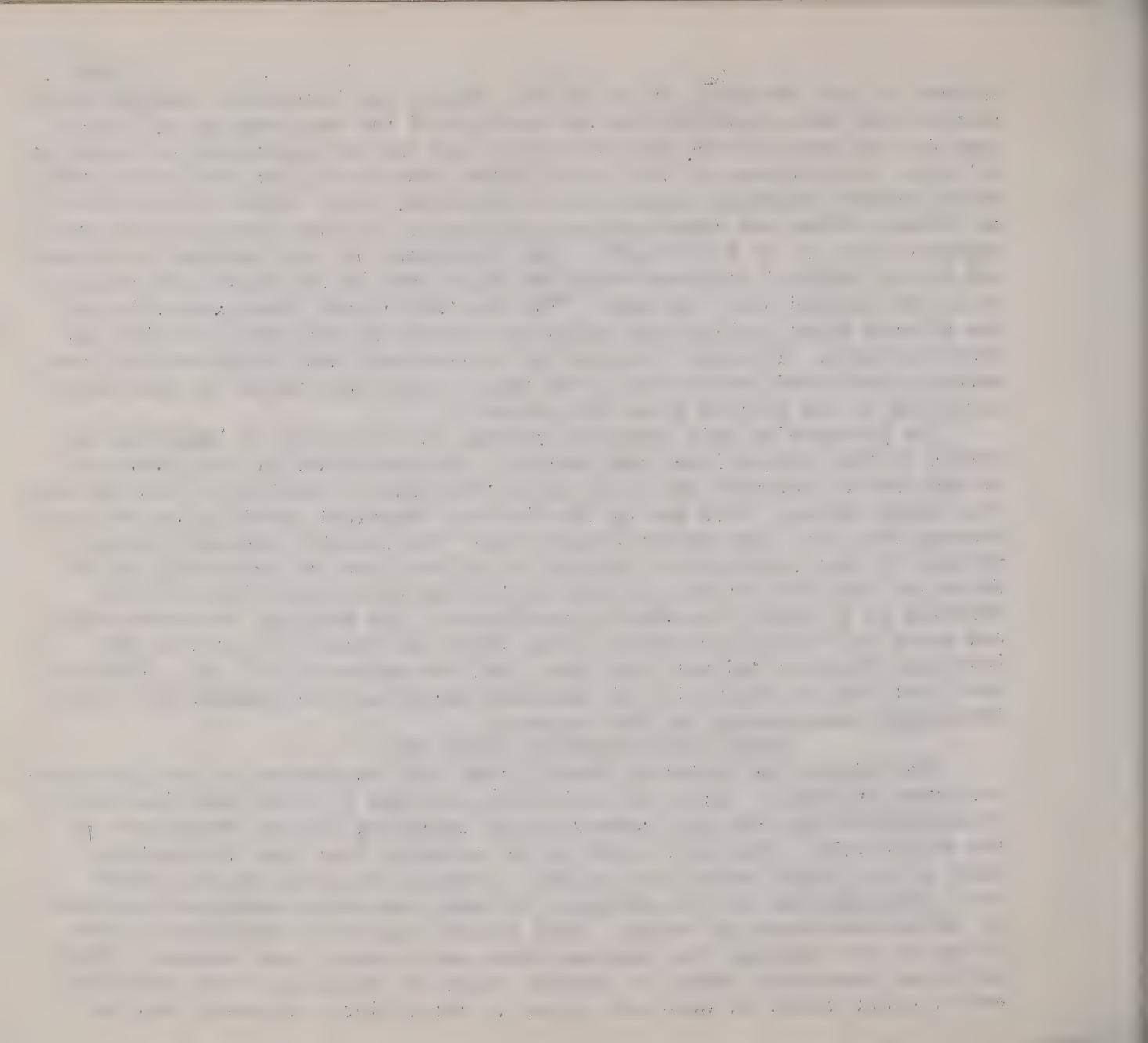
At the end of the Seven Years' War France relinquished all of her possessions in America. Spain was compensated for the loss of Florida by the cession of Louisiana to her by France. In 1800 France again received this territory by a secret treaty with Spain which was then under the rule of Napoleon. This move filled Jefferson with alarm, especially as it had been preceded by the withdrawal on the part of Spain of the "right of deposit" granted to Westerners by the treaty of 1795. This meant the closure of the only route to the markets of the world for the people of the Mississippi Valley, since the mouth of the river was held by Spain. Jefferson directed our ministers to France, Livingston and Monroe, to enter into negotiations for the purchase of the strip of coast east of the Mississippi and including New Orleans. Talleyrand, who was then minister of Foreign Affairs, instead

offered to sell the whole of Louisiana. Monroe and Livingston exceeded their instructions and negotiated for the purchase of the vast area of all Louisiana for the sum of sixty million francs, and the relinquishment by France of all debts due citizens of the United States upon claims for spoliations committed against American commerce by France since 1800. These claims amounted to about three and three-quarters millions of dollars, bringing the total purchase price up to \$15,000,000. The importance of this purchase is expressed in the words of Jefferson when the first news of the French ownership of Louisiana reached him. He said: "The day that France takes possession of New Orleans fixes the sentence which is to restrain her forever within her low-water mark. It seals the union of two nations, who in conjunction, can maintain exclusive possession of the ocean. From that moment we must marry ourselves to the British fleet and nation."

The purchase of this territory removed the necessity of "marrying ourselves to the British fleet and nation." The population of the territory at the time of purchase was about fifty thousand, of which more than one half were negro slaves. This was by far the most important event in our national history thus far. One writer remarks that "The palpable necessary consequences of this acquisition, through its effect upon the membership of the Union and upon the balance of power within the government, were so overwhelming as to amount to almost a revolution. The original thirteen states had about half a million square miles, while the territory added by the Louisiana Purchase had not less than a million square miles" (3). This was the first step in the policy of expansion which has been fraught with such tremendous consequences for this country.

EARLY EXPLORATIONS BY WHITE MEN.

The conquest of Mexico by Cortez fired the imagination of the Spaniards, and there followed a series of exploring campaigns by which ambitious adventurers penetrated into the forests of the south and visited the plains of the middle west. Narvaez started on an exploring tour from the southern coast with a large expedition in 1528. Nothing was heard of this party until 1536 when one of its officers, De Vaca, and three companions appeared on the western coast of Mexico. They brought reports of civilized people living in the interior "in populous towns and in very large houses." They had heard remarkable rumors of immense herds of "wild cows"--the buffaloes, and of great wealth of gold and silver in the cities. Coronado, who was



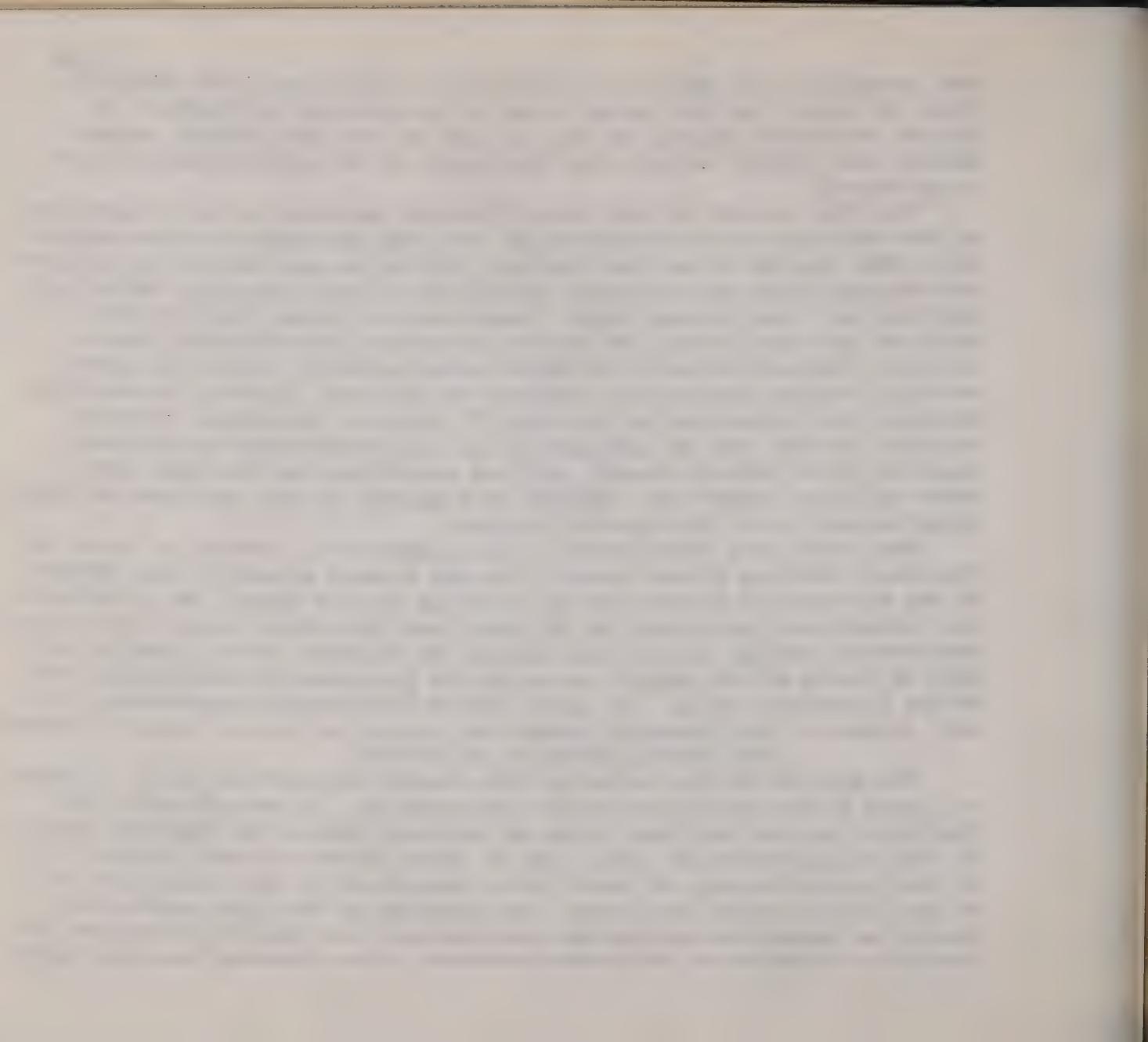
then governor of the province of New Galicia sent a monk, one Marcos de Nizza, to search for the "seven cities of the province of Cibola." He visited the Pueblo region, saw the villages of the Zuni Indians, passed through many fertile valleys, and heard much of the rumored wealth of the region beyond.

Upon the strength of this report Coronado organized a great expedition in 1840 and began his celebrated march into the great plains of the middle west. The army which was thus led into this region was bountifully equipped with baggage train and everything needful for a great campaign. But disappointment met them at every turn. There were no cities, there was no wealth of gold and silver, and nothing to conquer but straggling Indian villages. Coronado returned to Mexico after traveling far to the north, possibly reaching the southern boundary of Nebraska. General Simpson characterizes this expedition as one which "for extent in distance traveled, duration in time, and the multiplicity of its co-operating expeditions, equalled, if it did not exceed, any land expedition that has been undertaken in modern times" (4). Whether this be true or not, this was the first inland expedition to this part of the west.

The French were represented in this region by M. LeSeuer, an agent of Frontenac, Governor of New France. His was a peace mission to the Indians of the Northwest to further the interests of the fur trade. He is known to have established posts upon the St. Croix and Mississippi rivers late in the seventeenth century, and to have reached the Missouri river. Upon his return to France he was given a patent by his government to mine copper west of the Mississippi river. He again visited this region, establishing himself in what is now Minnesota, whence he visited the Indian tribes of Dakota.

THE TRADING COMPANIES AS PIONEERS.

The main motive for exploring this country and settling it at the first was found in the profitable fur trading business. It was not until 1851 that white men had any legal claim to territory within the limits of Dakota. In this year a treaty was made with the Sioux by which a small area of land on the eastern boundary of South Dakota was opened up with other territory to the east of it for settlement. But previous to this the trading companies had opened the way for settlers to come in without legal warrant and establish themselves in desirable locations, later pleading "squatter rights"



to the land thus preempted. The Hudson Bay Company, chartered in 1670 by Charles II of England, was earliest in the field, and from its headquarters in the Hudson Bay region reached into the northern part of what was later known as the Louisiana Purchase. This company came into competition with the North-west Fur Company, organized in 1783, and with the American Fur Company founded by John Jacob Astor in 1809. In 1826 the latter company had practically monopolized the fur trade in the region of the Missouri river, along the line of which it had constructed forts and trading houses which later became centers for settlement. It was not until 1869 that the Hudson Bay Company relinquished its lands, but it is at present still trading in its former territory, as a private corporation.

In 1634 Jean Nicolet, a companion of Champlain, penetrated to central Wisconsin by way of the Fox river, and thence to Illinois county, having made trading agreements with the Indians along his way. In the winter of 1658-59 two French fur-traders, Radisson and Grosilliers, visited Wisconsin, and built a fort on Chequamegon Bay of Lake Superior. It is said that upon the strength of their discoveries the Hudson Bay Company was organized. These Frenchmen first offered their knowledge and their services to the French government, but not receiving any encouragement they sold out to England.

Viewed in the light of history, the competition of the fur-trading companies was not merely competition for business, but competition for the possession of a continent. The French penetrated to the heart of the continent by following its two great systems of water highways, the St. Lawrence and the Great Lakes and the Missouri-Mississippi river system. In many ways the advantage lay with the French. By means of the Jesuit missionaries they formed friendly alliances with the Indians, they held the great lines of water communication to the heart of the continent, and they established lines of trading houses and forts upon these. But in the outcome, the slow-footed Englishman was to win the prize instead of his more versatile and active French competitor. Reuben G. Thwaites thus aptly writes of the Englishman: "Englishmen were content to sow and reap in a plodding fashion, extending their territorial bounds no faster than their settlements needed room for growth. Their acquaintance with the Indians did not, with the exception of New York and southern fur-traders, extend beyond the tribes which touched their borders. They were possessed of remarkable vitality



and a strong sense of political and commercial independence" (5).

THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION.

Jefferson is credited with prophetic insight as to the possibilities of the great northwest. He saw the desirability of reaching the western ocean by following the great transcontinental waterways of the Missouri and Columbia rivers. He shrewdly guessed that the head waters of these rivers could not be far apart, and early formed the idea of exploring their sources. The money with which to fit out the expedition he obtained as a sort of secret-service fund. Captain Lewis, who was made the head of the expedition, was his private secretary. The plans for this exploring expedition were made before the cession of Louisiana to this country, but undoubtedly this event was contemplated.

The expedition started May 24th, 1804, from the mouth of the Missouri river. The party was composed of forty-five persons in three boats. For 171 days they ascended the river finding winter quarters about thirty miles above Bismarck. They had travelled then, according to their own reckoning, 1,600 miles. In April of the next year the journey up the river was resumed. They reached the headwaters of the Missouri about the middle of August, having travelled about four thousand miles. Late in November of the year 1805 they reached the goal of their efforts, having passed down the Columbia to the Pacific in log canoes roughly hollowed out by burning. They wintered on the coast, and the next year returned by the way they had come. This expedition is one of the most remarkable of its kind. It is the only voyage ever made by white men or Indians up the current of the Missouri with such primitive means of propulsion as oars, sail, pole and tow-line. Its results were most important. The Indian tribes were notified of the fact of their new relation to the United States government, much valuable information of the various Indian tribes was collected, an accurate knowledge of the general characteristics of the interior of the continent was secured, and last, but by no means least, it laid the foundation for one of our strongest claims to the Oregon territory.

Many of the localities mentioned in the journal of the Lewis and Clark expedition are within the territory of the Dakotas. The first stop on Dakota soil was made August 22d, near the site of the present city of Elk



Point. August 25th Captains Lewis and Clark led a party to Spirit Mound eight or nine miles north of Vermilion. This natural mound of earth was examined with great care, and the Journal recites the Indian superstition that it was the dwelling place of "little spirits, or little devils, in the human form, of about eighteen inches high, and with remarkably large heads; they are armed with sharp arrows with which they are very skillful, and are always on the watch to kill those who would have the hardihood to approach their residence."

A few days later the party encamped on Bon Homme Island. On the seventh of September they reached Trudeau's trading house, located near the present site of Wheeler, Charles Mix county. This trading house was built by M. Trudeau, a Frenchman, in 1796, and was the first house erected by white men within the limits of our state. On the 24th of September they reached the mouth of the Teton or Bad river, where Ft. Pierre now is, and held a council with the Teton Sioux. The river is here described as being "about seventy yards wide and with considerable current."

Various other landings were made within the territory of the Dakotas before the winter's camp was reached above Mandan.

The return of this expedition, in 1806, was made an event of national rejoicing. President Jefferson had communicated to Congress the first information of the work of the expedition which he received at the end of the first year. The news of the successful completion of the perilous undertaking had been eagerly awaited by the people.

THE POLITICAL HISTORY OF LOUISIANA, TO 1803.

The Mississippi Valley came under the dominion of France as a result of the explorations of La Salle, who started from New France, traversed the Great Lakes, and reached the Mississippi river via the Chicago-Illinois portage, descending to the mouth of the river and taking formal possession of the country in the name of the French king. In 1699 the first French settlement was planted in Louisiana, first on an island at the mouth of the Mississippi, and later removed to the shores of Mobile Bay. New Orleans was founded in 1718. The line of settlements and trading posts crept up the river slowly, but the French were in secure possession of the Mississippi Valley by reason of discovery and also on the ground of settlement.

In 1712 the French king granted practically all of the territory between the Alleghany and the Rocky mountains to Anthony Crozat, a rich and



influential merchant of France, with exclusive privileges of commerce for the period of fifteen years. In five years Crozat was glad to surrender his monopoly to the crown. Thereupon this vast area was bestowed upon John Law's Mississippi Company with most extensive powers as to commerce and government. Some progress was made under this proprietorship to develop the country, but the returns from the outlay never equalled the expenditures made in behalf of the province. It came about thus, that in 1732 the Mississippi Company surrendered its charter to the king and Louisiana again became a royal province.

The outcome of the Seven Years' War compelled France to relinquish her territorial possessions on the American continent. Canada and the eastern part of the Mississippi Valley went to England as victor, and France ceded Louisiana to Spain, her ally, as a compensation for her losses in the war. Of all her American possessions France retained only her West Indies and some small island holdings. Thus Spain and England were left in possession of the continent, with the Mississippi river as the dividing line.

When Bonaparte became First Consul in 1800 he formed the idea of establishing a great American Empire. He, therefore, sought to recover for France the territory of Louisiana as the first step in this remarkable program. He readily induced Spain to cede him Louisiana, and then set on foot a great expedition to occupy the island of San Domingo which was to be used as a base for his further operations. The defeat of the French army of occupation at the hands of Toussaint I'Ouverture, a native general at the head of the blacks of San Domingo, entirely disarranged the plans of Napoleon, and put him in a mood to dispose of this territory which he then felt would be a burden upon his hands. The prospect of war with England strengthened this purpose, and thus he came to offer Louisiana to the United States at a time when we little dreamed that such a purchase was possible. The treaty of 1803 gave us Louisiana with the same boundaries it had in the hands of Spain.

II. TERRITORIAL HISTORY.

GOVERNMENT PRIOR TO 1861.

The ordinance of 1787 first gave definite form to the idea of territor-



ial government. This was a radical departure from the theory of colonial government, and was entirely in line with the Anglo-Saxon conception of local autonomy. The idea of territorial government is distinctly a product of American political genius. It is the least objectionable form of political tutelage, and in our political policy thus far has been considered as a preparation for entrance into the sisterhood of American States.

The government for Louisiana was provided by act of Congress in 1805, and St. Louis was the capital of the territory thus formed. In 1812 Louisiana having been admitted as a state, the remainder of the Louisiana Purchase became the Territory of Missouri, and this included what is now the two Dakotas. When Missouri was admitted in 1821, the rest of the territory remained nameless and ungoverned for thirteen years.

The Territory of Michigan was created by act of Congress in 1834, and included that part of the Dakotas lying east of the Missouri in addition to the area of the states of Wisconsin, Michigan, Iowa, and Minnesota. In 1836 the Territory of Wisconsin was made to include the same parts of the Dakotas as had the Territory of Michigan. In 1838 the eastern portion of the Dakotas became a part of the Territory of Iowa, to be transferred in 1849 to the Territory of Minnesota.

From 1858, the date when Minnesota became a state, the area of the Dakotas was again without legal name or corporate existence until the Territory of Dakota was organized in 1861. In 1869 Montana was separated from Dakota Territory. The division of Dakota into North and South Dakota was accomplished simultaneously with the admission of these States. Dakota Territory thus had a legal existence for the period of twenty-eight years.

EARLY TREATIES WITH THE INDIANS.

As has been previously stated, the first treaty with the Indians by which white men obtained legal title to land in the Dakotas was negotiated in 1851 with the Sioux. The land thus obtained was between the Big Sioux and the Minnesota State line, the site of Sioux Falls being included in this.

The next treaty was made in 1858, and secured for the whites the territory between the Big Sioux and the Missouri with the exception of two small reservations made in the interest of the Indians. This included a total of 16,000,000 acres. Over one and a half million dollars was paid for this cession of land during the next fifty years in the form of annuities. After this date efforts were put forth to secure a territorial government

for Dakota.

James S. Foster in his "History of Dakota Territory" published in 1870, in speaking of the eagerness with which settlers rushed into the new country opened up for settlement by the treaty of 1858, says, "as soon as the Indians were out of sight, and perhaps before, claim hunters had crossed the river from Nebraska and staked out claims for a distance of several miles each way from the site of Yankton." In fact, settlers were already located along the valley of the Missouri before the treaty was made. The removal of the Indians was not accomplished until 1859.

"SQUATTER" GOVERNMENT.

The settlers in Dakota whose landed rights were acquired under the treaties of 1851 and 1858 were without local government until the organization of the territory in 1861. "Under these circumstances the settlers were cut off from political rights, and if they were to have law and order it must come from their voluntary action. The political instinct of the American citizen here asserted itself, and for two years the settlers of the valleys of the Missouri and the Sioux elected squatter legislatures and squatter governors. The first of these provisional legislatures was elected in 1858, printed notices of the election having been sent out by the authority of a 'mass convention of the people of Dakota Territory held in Sioux Falls'" (6). "The session lasted but a few days, and the principal business done was to memorialize Congress for the organization of a new territory, and to elect a governor and a delegate to Congress" (7).

The first provisional legislature adopted the laws of Minnesota as a basis of legal procedure and for the preservation of the peace. Henry Masters was chosen governor and S. J. Albright speaker of the house. By the election of 1859 Jefferson P. Kidder was elected delegate to Congress, and S. J. Albright governor. As Mr. Albright declined to qualify for this office, W. W. Brookings, who had been elected president of the council, assumed the office of governor by common consent, which position he held until the territory was organized.

Mr. Kidder, as delegate to Congress from this anomalous territory, applied for admission to that body, but failed to be seated by a few votes. One reason for the delay in organizing the territory lay in the fact that

the republican members of Congress demanded that the organic act for the territory should contain a clause prohibiting slavery, and the bill was not passed until the southern members retired upon the eve of the Rebellion.

ORGANIZATION OF THE TERRITORY.

The organic act for Dakota was practically the same as those erecting other western territories. Dakota originally included territory that is now found in five States, viz., portions of Idaho, Wyoming, Montana and all of the two Dakotas. The boundary of Dakota as it was first organized was as follows: Starting in the channel of the Red River of the North where it is crossed by the forty-ninth parallel of north latitude, the line follows this river to Big Stone lake: thence along the western boundaries of Minnesota and Iowa to the point where the Big Sioux intersects the Missouri; thence along the channel of the Missouri to the mouth of the Niobrara; thence up the Niobrara and Keya Paha rivers to the forty-third parallel of latitude; thence to the eastern boundary of Washington; thence north to the forty-ninth parallel of latitude; and thence east to the point of beginning. The territory as thus organized included an area of over 350,000 square miles, and was nearly as large as the combined areas of France and Spain.

By 1873 the parts of Montana, Wyoming and Idaho included in Dakota had been cut off, and the western boundary of the territory was placed on the present line of the western boundary of the two Dakotas. The area of the territory in its final form was 150,932 square miles.

Under the organic act for Dakota the President appointed the governor, secretary, chief-justice and associate justices, United States attorney, and surveyor-general. The salaries of these officers were paid by the United States government. The legislative power was vested in two houses known as the council and the house of representatives. The membership in these bodies was limited by the act to not less than nine and not more than thirteen members in the council, and to not less than thirteen nor more than twenty-six members in the house. In the later period of the territory the maximum membership of the council was placed at twenty-four and that of the house at forty-eight. The territorial courts directly under federal supervision were the supreme court of the Territory and several district courts, presided over by a chief-justice and associate justices appointed by the President.

William Jayne, of Illinois, was the first governor. He arrived at Yankton to organize the territorial government May 27, 1861.



The men who presided over the destinies of the Territory of Dakota as chief magistrates, together with their terms of service are as follows:

William Jayne, 1861-63; Newton Edmunds, 1863-66; Andrew J. Faulk, 1866-69; John A. Burbank, 1869-74; John L. Pennington, 1874-78; William A. Howard, 1878-80; Nehemiah G. Ordway, 1880-84; Gilbert A. Pierce, 1884-87; Louis K. Church, 1887-89; Arthur C. Mellette, 1889.

The chief-justices of the Territory are as follows:

Philemon Bliss, 1861-64; Ara Bartlett, 1865-69; Geo. W. French, 1869-72; Peter C. Shannon, 1873-81; A.J. Edgerton, 1881-85; Bartlett Tripp, 1885-89.

The first election was called by Governor Jayne for September 16th, 1861. The election was spiritedly contested. There were three candidates for delegate to Congress, viz., Capt. J.B.S. Todd, A.J. Bell, of Vermilion, and Charles P. Booge, of Sioux City. Of the 495 votes cast, Todd received 397.

The first legislature met at Yankton in March, 1862. The following persons constituted its membership:

The Council--H.D. Betts, J.W. Boyle, D.T. Bramble, W.W. Brookings, A. Cole, Jacob Duel, J.S. Gregory, Enos Stutsman, and J.H. Shober, president of the Council.

The House--M.K. Armstrong, Lyman Burgess, J.A. Jacobson, J.C. McBride, Christopher Maloney, A.W. Puett, John Stanage, John L. Tiernon, H.S. Donaldson, Reuben Wallace, Geo. P. Waldron, B.E. Wood, and G.M. Pinney, speaker.

Many important matters called for the attention of this first legislature. It passed 91 general laws, 25 private laws, and 21 memorials to Congress. The seat of government was located at Yankton. Sioux Falls, Vermilion, and Yankton were all candidates for this honor. The political and capital campaign resulted in the establishment of two newspapers, viz., "The Dakotain" at Yankton, the successor to which still survives, and "The Republican" at Vermilion, which has maintained its publication to the present day. The location of the territorial penitentiary at Bon Homme, the establishment of a territorial university at Vermilion, a series of acts organizing counties, the enactment of civil and criminal codes for the territory, the incorporation of an Old Settlers' Historical Association



were some of the important acts of the first legislature.

SETTLEMENT OF THE SIOUX VALLEY.

The early settlements in the valley of the Sioux were made with speculation as a motive and under the leadership of land companies. The first information of this region was given to the world by Joseph N. Nicollet, the distinguished geographer who accompanied Gen. Fremont in his visit to the section of what is now South Dakota in 1839. This party entered by way of the Missouri river which they ascended as far as Ft. Pierre, thence going overland to Devils lake, and returning east by way of Big Stone lake. The picturesque features of the site of Sioux Falls, and the waterpower afforded by the falls of the river (8), had attracted the attention of prospective settlers. The valley of the Sioux was originally attached to Minnesota, but upon the admission of the state in 1858 this strip of country, opened up to settlement by the treaty of 1851, was left unrelated to any political body.

One of the land companies formed for the purpose of making a settlement in this region was the Western Town Company, of Dubuque, Iowa. This company was organized in 1856. Its representatives were on the ground that year and located a townsite of three hundred and twenty acres. The attempt at a permanent settlement by this company was made in the summer of 1857, and was persisted in in spite of the danger from Indian raids.

The Dakota Land Company was chartered by the legislature of Minnesota Territory in 1857, with the avowed purpose of securing desirable townsites in the land of Dakota. Representatives of this company arrived at Sioux Falls one week after the settlers of the Western Town Company had established themselves there in the summer of 1857. A section of land was located by the Dakota Land Company adjoining that of the Dubuque Company. Several other desirable townsites in the eastern part of Dakota were also located by the Minnesota company. The settlers of the Sioux Valley were thus in Dakota during the time of the "squatter" government, and took a prominent part in the movements of that period.

In spite of the threats of the Indians, and their frequent warnings to the whites to leave the country the settlers persisted in their determination. The Sioux Falls settlement prospered from 1857 to 1862, the date of the Indian massacre in Minnesota, at which time the settlers in the Sioux Valley withdrew. The valley was deserted until the year 1865, when the people returned under the protection of United States troops. This military protec-



tion was given them until 1869.

Prominent among the early settlers of this region were W.W. Brookings, J.L. Phillips, John McClellan, R.B. McKinley, S.B. Atwood, A.L. Kilgore, James L. Fiske, James McBride, William Little, James Allen, James M. Evans, D.M. Mills, Smith Kinzey. These men braved many dangers in their bold attempt to effect this settlement. The development of Dakota was at the cost of much privation and many lives, the most of which were sacrificed to the hatred and treachery of the Indians who ever viewed the white man as an intruder, and as one who was robbing them of their rightful heritage.

SETTLEMENT OF THE MISSOURI VALLEY.

Yankton was the pioneer settlement of the Missouri Valley with Vermilion a close second. In 1858 trading posts were established at Yankton and Vermilion by Frost, Todd & Company, to whom had been granted a license to trade with the Indians. Not much in the way of settlement could be accomplished in this region until after the Indian title to the land was extinguished, and this was accomplished by the treaty of 1858. The Indians, however, were not actually removed until July, 1859. The influx of white settlers dates from the summer of 1859, therefore. Bon Homme, Yankton, Clay, and Union counties were the scenes of these early settlements. The towns of Bon Homme, Yankton, Vermilion, and Elk Point were the germinal points for the population which filled this fertile valley.

Something of the rapidity of this settlement may be learned from the fact that the first census of the territory, taken in June, 1861, showed a population of 2,402 people. The Indian outbreak of 1862 arrested the progress of settlement in Dakota, and it was not until after 1868 when the Sioux were relocated west of the Missouri river that the danger of Indian raids was entirely removed. Even then the reports of the Indian troubles in Minnesota and Dakota which found their way to the east, in much exaggerated form, deterred people from seeking locations in a section threatend by such dangers.

During the earlier decades of territorial life southeastern Dakota contained the bulk of the population of the territory, and here centered its larger industrial and commercial interests. The first land entry was not made in what is now North Dakota until 1871. The first telegraph in the



territory was built from Sioux City to Yankton in 1870, and in 1872 the railroad was completed between those two places. The discovery of gold in the Black Hills in 1874 and the opening up this section to settlement in 1877 contributed greatly to the rapidity of territorial development, but temporarily turned the tide of settlement from the other sections to that region of fabulous mineral resources.

In this early period the "colony" method of settlement was a popular one. One of the "colonies" entering the valley of the Missouri was organized principally through the efforts of James S. Foster, in New York, and started on its pilgrimage to the west from Syracuse, N.Y., with a chartered train which landed the party and their effects at Marshalltown, Iowa. The rest of the journey was made with teams. The "colony" crossed the Sioux near Sioux City in May, 1864, and took their way up the fertile valley of the Missouri, many of the families settling on claims between Sioux City and Yankton. Mr. Foster and about fifteen families located at Yankton that year. Mr. Foster afterward became superintendent of public instruction for the territory, and was for many years a prominent figure in territorial and state affairs. Other members of this party, whose names will be recognized by those familiar with the early history of the territory, were S.C. Fargo, Charles Van Epps, A.L. Hinman, James Prentis, G.C. Moody, A.C. Brownson, L.W. Case, Ellison Brownson, Charles N. Taylor, Darwin Phillips, Amos Phillips, L.H. Elliott.

Bon Homme was settled in 1858 by a "colony" of settlers from Mankato, Minnesota, which entered the territory immediately after the consummation of the treaty of 1858. This settlement prospered, and Bon Homme became one of the important places of the early territorial life. Here was built the first school house in the territory. Bon Homme and Vermilion were competitors for the early educational honors in the territory. It appears upon indisputable testimony that the honor of having built the first school house in the territory must be bestowed upon the town of Bon Horme and its enterprising young community. The first school house was built there in 1860, but this was a primitive affair, and in the year 1862 a school house of some pretensions, for those days, was built by Mr. Shober, of Bon Homme, at his own expense. Mrs. Williams, born Rounds, a member of the Mankato "colony" of settlers who settled at Bon Homme and who was a pupil of this first school,

gives her testimony as follows regarding the first and second school house at Bon Homme:

"Our family, in company with a number of others, arrived in Bon Homme about November 12, 1859. Shortly after we were settled, Mr. D.P. Bradford came and built a house for his family, who were then living in Sioux City. His family came to Bon Homme on the first boat in the spring of 1860. The river opened very early that spring, some time in February, and it was probably the latter part of April or the first of May when they arrived. The first school house was built after they came, and as it was a primitive affair it did not take long to build it. Within two weeks of the arrival of the Bradfords, Miss Emma Bradford, second daughter of D.P. Bradford, then about sixteen years of age, was installed as teacher. She taught a three months' term of school. There were ten pupils as follows: John and Le Anna Bradford; Melissa, John and Ira Brown; Ann, Mary, and George McDaniels; George and Delia Rounds. Miss Emma Bradford returned to Sioux City in the fall of 1860 to continue her studies in the schools of that place. In 1861 there was a good deal of building and improvement in the town, but there was no school, from the lack of a teacher, I suppose. In 1862, at the time of the Indian trouble, we had what we considered a fine new school house, built by Mr. Shober at his own expense. It was made of hewn logs, had a rough cotton-wood floor, cotton-wood shingles on the roof, three windows of two sash each with 8 x 10 glass, and a ceiling overhead of thin, cotton-wood boards which warped until they looked as though they had been run through a fluting machine. But in that building we never had a school. The people all went to Yankton that year and fortified themselves against the Indians. When the scare was over, very few of them ever returned, some going back to their homes in the east, and a few settling in Iowa. We returned to Bon Homme, and in the spring of 1864 my mother bought from Mr. Shober this new school house. Sometime in June, 1864, there arrived in Bon Homme about a dozen families of what was called the Syracuse Colony, under the direction of Jas. S. Foster. Mrs. Foster opened a school shortly after their arrival in Mr. Bradford's house, which had been used during the winters of 1862-3 as soldiers' barracks, there having been a squad of soldiers kept in Bon Homme for the protection of the settlers, and as a relay in carrying the



dispatches to the forts above us on the river. Mrs. Foster taught a three-months' term of school,--and this is the history of the first and second schools in the old town of Bon Homme."

"The first permanent school house erected within the limits of the territory was built at Vermilion in 1864. It was built of logs taken from the 'timber' on the banks of the Missouri, and its exact location is still pointed out. The first school in this house was taught by Amos F. Shaw in the winter of 1864-5" (9).

The Missouri river at this time, and during the period of early territorial life, was the great highway for the transportation of settlers and their goods into Dakota and the region beyond. Indian agencies, trading posts, and military posts along the course of the river, and at quite a distance from it, all made demands for goods that could only be transported by boats on the river. The "northern mines" on the sources of the Missouri and the Columbia rivers had attracted quite a population to this remote region. Mills and other mining machinery were carried up the river to this remote region by boat, and this materially increased the traffic on the Missouri. In 1866-7 the Committee on Mineral and Agricultural Resources of Dakota in its report to the legislature estimated the traffic on the Missouri as follows:

"Since the opening of navigation in 1860, one hundred and eighty steam-boats have ascended the Missouri river into Dakota territory. Of these, nine arrived in 1860, eleven in 1861, thirteen in 1862, eighteen in 1863, thirty in 1864, thirty-nine in 1865, fifty-eight in 1866, an average of thirty arrivals each year, or an increase of forty per cent per annum. These boats have carried into the upper Missouri Valley an aggregate of 55,000 tons of freight, worth at least \$65,000,000. Aside from this, 700 mackinaw boats have arrived from the mountains since 1860, bringing over \$5,000,000 in furs and gold. . . . The northern mines were discovered not more than three years ago, and now have a population of 30,000, of which 12,000 are east of the mountains."

THE INDIAN WAR.

In August of 1862 the Indians of Minnesota attacked the settlers, killed many and took several hundred women and children prisoners. A little later the Indians in Dakota manifested hostility and several settlers were killed. When the news of the Indian uprising became known, the settlers at



Sioux Falls and those in the valley of the Missouri concentrated at Yankton for mutual defense. Crops, live stock, and dwellings were abandoned in the haste of the people to reach a place of safety. The panic even reached Sioux City, and many people there left for the east, never to return. As the crops were about ready to harvest when the settlers left their homes, much loss resulted. During the fall most of the settlers returned to their homes, where they remained undisturbed.

Two companies of Dakota cavalry were organized to serve in the Indian War. Captain Nelson Miner was in command of one of these, and Captain William Trip was at the head of the other. These companies were mustered into the United States service, and they served faithfully during the war, as it was called, in General Sully's campaign. At the end of their service they were honorably discharged, and returned to their farms. The only other military service contributed by the settlers of the territory at this time was an organization of "home Guards" organized for temporary purposes at Yankton by F.M. Ziebach. The old Yankton chief, Struck-by-the-Ree, whose friendship for the whites had always been marked, did valiant service with his warriors in protecting his friends and allies, the white settlers.

In 1863 the Indians were given their first severe lesson. General Sibley led a detachment of troops against the hostiles who had been located near the head-waters of the James, and fought a battle with them in the vicinity of Bismarck. The Indians were defeated and fled across the river. General Sully, who had been advancing up the valley of the Missouri, came upon these Indians a little later and won a most decisive victory, killing five hundred of them and capturing one-half as many.

Governor Edmunds' message to the Fourth Legislative Assembly of the territory, 1864-5, contains severe criticisms of the conduct of the military operations in this war. He said, "I am fully convinced that little, if anything, has been accomplished toward the subjugation of the Indians." This seems mere captiousness. It is written after all of the important campaigns of the war had been made and the Indians finally routed. In this same message Governor Edmunds describes the effect of the Indian hostilities upon the territory. He wrote as follows:

"The effect of the continuance of this war upon the prosperity of the



territory has been most damaging and deleterious. It has retarded its settlement and development to an extent unprecedented in the history of the early settlement of any of our northwestern territories. It has confined our settlers to narrow limits bordering the Missouri river; and those of necessity have had to confine their operations, for mutual safety and protection, to little towns, at intervals of a few miles, in order to retain possession of the country, it not being safe at any time for the past two years to reside at a distance from the town by reason of the prevalence of roving bands of hostile Indians, who seem ever ready to steal the horses and stock of our settlers, and kill the owners in cases where resistance is made. Our various settlements can but be looked upon as a picket guard to hold this country until such time as peace can be restored between the government and these Indians" (10).

In his next message to the Fifth Legislative Assembly, 1865-6, the Governor says, "There is now every prospect that an early, permanent, and lasting peace will speedily take place between the government and these hostile Indians."

"The campaigns in 1863 and 1864-5 by Generals Sully and Sibley against the Indians had resulted in severe chastisement, but they remained as hostile as ever. At the beginning of his term of office Governor Edmunds set about the task of pacification of the Indians, and with rare judgment and skill, eventually gained their confidence and finally became the chief factor in bringing about a permanent peace. In 1864 he visited the Poncas in person, who were on the eve of an outbreak on account of outrages committed by drunken United States soldiers. Eight innocent and friendly Poncas had been murdered without provocation by these soldiers. In this crisis the governor, by kindness and patience, reached a pacific understanding with the Indians, thus ending an imminent danger to the Dakota settlements. In 1865 Governor Edmunds visited Washington and laid his plans for pacification of the Sioux before President Lincoln. He asked sufficient funds to enable him to visit the different bands of the Sioux in person. Twenty thousand dollars were appropriated for this purpose. Governor Edmunds began his work of pacification of the Sioux in the fall of 1865, and after about a year of vigorous work his efforts were crowned with success. He went among the Sioux personally without arms and practically without military escort, and made treaties that restored peace for many years. He rendered valuable aid in



1876, when the United States Commission met the Indians to secure cession of the Black Hills. . . . The young territory was singularly fortunate in having in its executive chair at this time in its existence a man of the qualities Governor Edmunds possessed" (11).

EXPLORATION AND SETTLEMENT OF THE BLACK HILLS.

The thirst for gold is a motive strong enough to lead men to brave almost any danger. The settlement of California and the rush of prospectors and miners to Alaska amply illustrate this. The white man's invasion of the Black Hills and the rapid settlement of that region when its mineral resources became generally known furnish still further evidence of this fact. When the Indians were removed west of the Missouri river in 1859 little was known of the Black Hills, and no one offered any objections to this region remaining indefinitely in their hands. But when the mineral wealth of the Hills was known no force of law or ordinary military defense could keep the gold seekers from entering this region.

It was comparatively late before any definite knowledge of the Black Hills was obtained. In 1857 a military and scientific expedition under the command of Lieutenant George K. Warren visited the Hills in search of information. With this expedition was Dr. F.V. Hayden, geologist and naturalist. They secured sufficient information to know that the region was rich in minerals and constructed quite an accurate map of the entire Hills.

There is evidence that the Hills had been visited at a very early day by a party of white men. This evidence is in the form of a tablet of sand-stone found near Spearfish in 1887, upon which is an inscription which tells in a few words the fate of a party entering the Hills in 1833. This stone tablet is now in the possession of John Cashner, of Spearfish. The credibility of the story told by the tablet is strengthened by letters from people in the east who, upon hearing of the discovery of such a record, have claimed to be relatives of the men making up this party. Its credibility is further strengthened by traditions among the Indians of the Hills that a band of the Sioux in early days came upon a party of whites, took their gold, and killed all but one of the party. The stone tablet in question is about twelve inches square and two and one-half inches in thickness. Upon one side it bears the following inscription rudely carved: "Came to



these Hills in 1833, seven of us DeLacompt Ezra Kind B.W. Wood L. Brown R. Kent Wm. King Indian Crow. All ded hit me Ezra Kind. Killed by Inds beyond the high hill got out gold June 1834." On the other side the inscription is as follows: "Got all the gold we could carry our pony all got by the Indians. I have lost my gun and nothing to eat and Indians hunting me."

If the story of this tablet be true, this was the first visit of white men to the Hills.

In 1874 Lieutenant-Colonel George A. Custer led an exploring party to the Hills and reached the site of Custer City. He was accompanied by Professor N.H. Winchell, geologist and naturalist. One of the party, who was a practical miner, had such enthusiasm as to the prospects for gold in the Hills that he proceeded to Sioux City and forthwith organized a party to return the same year and begin mining operations. In 1875 information regarding gold in the Hills had spread to such an extent that the government deemed it necessary to send General Crook with soldiers to evict the miners already there and guard the region from further invasion. In neither of these purposes was the military expedition successful.

In 1875 the government began negotiations, at first unsuccessful, for the purchase of this region from the Indians, resulting in the treaty of 1876, and the formal opening of the Hills for legal settlement by the President's proclamation of February 28, 1877. The year 1876 saw a wonderful activity in the settlement of this section. Deadwood, Lead, Rapid City, Hill City, Spearfish, Central, Sturgis, and other places of less importance had their real origin in the settlements made this first year before the Hills were legally opened to the white men.

The reputation of the Hills in 1864 is seen in what Governor Edmunds said of this region in his message to the legislature of that year. He wrote:

"It is believed by persons familiar with the country in the vicinity of the Black Hills, that the country abounds not only with precious metals (gold and silver) but that copper, iron, and coal exist in unlimited quantities. Indeed, rich specimens of iron and copper have been brought into the settlements by friendly Indians from this section of the country, and the bed of the Niobrara river abounds with specimens of stone coal. It is believed that a thorough geological survey of that portion of the territory will establish the existence of large and rich deposits of the minerals



named above, and not only this, but this section of the country is capable of supplying for all time to come, not only our own settlers, but all north-western Iowa, with all the pine lumber needed for the future development and improvement of the country."

The first part of the prophecy has been more than fulfilled, but not the latter. The great Homestake mine is the largest gold mine in the world. This mine was purchased by its present owners in 1877, and has been in successful operation ever since. With all that has been done in the way of developing the mineral resources of the Hills, it is probably true that only a bare beginning has been made. The State of South Dakota has a rare combination of mineral and agricultural resources. The mineral resources of the Black Hills have contributed much not only toward its material prosperity in the way of taxable assets, but much more to its prestige in the money markets of the world.

THE EARLY TERRITORIAL PERIOD.

The early period of territorial life was characterized by all that goes to make up pioneer conditions--a primitive status of society, sparse settlement, absence of railroads, Indian hostilities, uncertain crop conditions, the unsettled condition of political affairs, and inefficiency of governmental machinery. This period of territorial life extended from 1862, the date of territorial organization, to 1872, the date of the advent of railroads and telegraph.

The Indian troubles from 1862 to 1868 resulted in actually driving away many settlers who had already located in the territory and in effectually frightening away nearly all prospective settlers. The population at the time the territory was organized was less than 1,800. In 1870 the population was 14,182. Not only was immigration hindered, but the industrial and political development of the territory was almost at a standstill during the greater part of this period.

In 1864 James S. Foster, then superintendent of public instruction for the territory, reported that nothing had been done toward organizing its schools. His estimate of the number of children of school age then within the territory was placed at 600. There had been no appropriation for school purposes at that time, and regular public schools were hardly thought of.

In 1866 the superintendent reported that the total value of school property in four of the most populous southern counties was \$3,200, and the total number of pupils in these counties was 759, while the total tax raised for school purposes was \$214.84. These figures convey some idea of what is meant by pioneer conditions, at least in educational matters.

Superintendent Foster, in his "Outlines of Territorial History," published in 1870, gives an account of a teachers' normal institute held at Elk Point in the year 1867. This was probably the first teachers' institute ever held in the territory. Superintendent Foster says of this institute:

"In the fall of 1867 a teachers' institute was held at Elk Point. Lectures were delivered before the institute by Hons. S.L. Spink and W.W. Brookings, of Yankton, and addresses by Hon. E.C. Collins and Rev. T. McK. Stewart of Elk Point, and James S. Foster, superintendent of public instruction. The number of teachers present was about twenty, and the exercises were of a highly interesting character."

During this early period of territorial development the streams of settlement followed the river valleys of the Missouri, the Sioux, and the James, in the southern part of the territory. In the north there was very little of settlement outside of the Red River Valley. The first signs of modern progress were seen in the building of a telegraph to Yankton from Sioux City in 1870, followed by a railroad in 1872. Now that settlers could be landed within the limits of the territory by the railroad, immigration poured in more rapidly.

In 1865 Congress appropriated \$85,000 for the opening of a wagon road through the territory to the gold fields of the Rocky mountains. One road was constructed from Niobrara to Virginia City; another from Sioux City up the valley of the Missouri to the mouth of the Cheyenne; and a third from the Minnesota line to Cheyenne, Wyoming, to intersect the road to Virginia City, west of the Black Hills. These roads meant much to the straggling settlements in Dakota, so far removed from the centers of commerce. The most important part of this road construction was the bridging of the rivers. The building of these roads undoubtedly gave an additional impetus to the settlement of the territory, and helped to offset the damage and hindrance which the Indian troubles had caused in settlement and development.

THE MIDDLE PERIOD OF TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT.

The modern pioneer has gone not far in advance of the railroad. In fact, he has more frequently sought his frontier home in the comfortable coaches of the railroad than otherwise. Right Rev. W.H. Hare, missionary bishop, first of the territory and then of South Dakota, a pioneer himself in his religious work in territory and state, thus graphically describes the advent of the modern pioneer as he invaded the wide prairies of the West:

"Language cannot describe the rapidity with which these communities are built up. You may stand ankle deep in the short grass of the uninhabited wilderness; next month a mixed train will glide over the waste and stop at some point where the railroad has decided to locate a town. Men, women, and children will jump out of the cars, and their chattels will be tumbled out after them. From that moment the building begins. The courage and faith of these pioneers are something extraordinary. Their spirit seems to rise above all obstacles. I have ridden into a Dakota valley and pitched my tent. After my supper, lolling upon my buffalo robe, I have looked around and seen nothing but a wolf that looked down from a hill into the valley to see who the intruder was. When I visited that valley the next year, I saw a long train of Pullman palace cars. In that same trip I camped on the flat bottom land near the Missouri river. There was no sign of civilization there but a log hunt with a mud roof. Within the year I revisited the spot and saw a town. It has since increased to two thousand inhabitants."

The middle period of territorial life, from 1872 to 1880, was marked by the advent of railroads and by rapid settlement. In 1875 the population of the territory was not over 35,000, while in 1880 it had reached 135,177. The railroad mileage in 1880 was 689 miles. By 1873 the terminals of three railroads had been located within the territory, and this constituted all the difference between helpless isolation and relative commercial prosperity. The Dakota Southern railroad, afterwards merged with the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul, entered the territory in 1872, stopping at Yankton. The same year the Winona and St. Peter crossed the territorial line, and reached Lake Kampeska in 1875. This road was later absorbed by the Chicago



and Northwestern. In 1873 the Northern Pacific reached Bismarck on its way across the continent. Its completion as a transcontinental line was not accomplished until 1883. The railroads thus joined hands with the pioneers in the preliminary work of settlement from which was to come a great commonwealth. The importance of railroads in the development of this country is nowhere more strikingly shown than in the great Middle West, a country which, without adequate facilities for rapid transportation, must have remained sparsely settled and economically insignificant.

In the latter part of this middle period the eastern counties of the southern part of the territory were recipients of a large immigration. By 1880 the tide of immigration had rolled on to the valley of the James and even reached the Missouri at Pierre and Chamberlain. Mitchell, Huron, Redfield, and Aberdeen became terminal points for the development of this central valley region. The whole southern part of the territory, east of the Missouri, was generously dotted with embryo towns and cities which in later days have become large centers of commercial and industrial activity surrounded by wealthy and prosperous farming communities.

THE LATER TERRITORIAL PERIOD.

The period from 1880 to 1889 may fairly be called the "boom" period of territorial life. There was great activity in railroad building, and the railroad mileage advanced from 689 miles in 1880 to 4,483 miles in 1889. Another characteristic feature of this period was the entrance of eastern capital into the business of the territory. This was one of the most important aids to the commercial and industrial development of the territory. The resources of Dakota had become known in the east to such an extent as to tempt capital to seek an investment in its lands and in its commercial and industrial enterprises. This meant that a large volume of immigration would follow where these new investments were sought. The products of Dakota farms had begun to reach the east and to compete in its markets with the products of eastern farms. With lowering prices for farm products, the price of eastern lands fell, and other values felt this disturbing influence. In some places land values declined from \$150 per acre to less than \$50. But with the lands of the west practically free to bona fide settlers, the enterprising young men of the east sought farms and homes in the western country in large numbers. These conditions served but to emphasize the opportunities and resources of the west, and during this later period settlers came to



Dakota in unprecedented numbers.

The vicious methods of the "boomer" led to unwise and worthless investments, which in time reacted most unfavorably upon the business and industry of Dakota. A series of crop failures in the later years of the decade brought discouragement and poverty to many of the people, who had undertaken to start upon slender capital. Compelled to borrow money at ruinous rates of interest, the small farmer was frequently brought to bankruptcy, and his land passed into the hands of money loaners. With the advent of artesian wells, and a more thorough knowledge of soil and climatic conditions, prosperity later returned to many sections which had suffered considerably. Back of all appearances of failure, and back of all "boom" features, there was real and substantial progress, and Dakota experienced phenomenal prosperity during this period. The population for the territory, according to the census of 1885, was 415,610, and in 1889 it was estimated at about 600,000.

It was during this later period that the political life of the territory took on large proportions and greater activity. Representation in Congress became an important matter, and the position of delegate to Congress was eagerly contested. The functions of legislation became more important, and the halls of the legislature were the scenes of some most exciting political contests. The location of the various territorial institutions was a matter of much importance, but there is not lacking evidence that sometimes these were located more because of political considerations than because of any ideas of utility and real convenience. The two universities, which were organized in territorial days and which developed into institutions of importance, very naturally became the inheritance of the states succeeding the territory, one to each of them. But, on the whole, South Dakota inherited the larger share of these institutions by virtue of their location. The removal of the capital from Yankton to Bismarck, in 1883, served to stimulate the sentiment in the southern part of the territory for the division into two states. From this date there was a strong agitation carried on for division and admission.

The educational development during the later period of the territory kept pace with its material progress. Never was a people more devoted to schools and the means of education than the people of Dakota. Private

enterprise in the establishment of schools and colleges and in maintaining them has been most active at all times. Probably no territory in the history of this country has ever shown more devotion to the cause of education than did Dakota.

THE MOVEMENT FOR DIVISION AND ADMISSION.

From an early period of territorial life the question of the ultimate division of the territory was under consideration. Petitions for division went to Congress from seven of the territorial legislatures, beginning with the year 1871. In 1879 the action taken was in the form of a protest against admission as one state. In 1881 a memorial was sent to Congress asking for division into three states. From 1880 various bills were introduced dealing with the question of division and admission of one or both of the Dakotas. The capital removal in 1883 intensified the division sentiment in the southern part of the territory, and the defeat of a bill in the legislature of 1883 providing for a constitutional convention added fuel to the flame.

It was by popular initiative that the movement for division and admission was carried to a successful issue. In the summer of 1882 a mass convention was held at Canton to consider this question. The convention declared unanimously for division and the admission of the southern half of the territory. A committee was appointed with power to call a delegate convention at Huron to consider ways and means to secure the end in view. The Huron convention, which met in June of 1883 was thoroughly representative, and made up of able men. It adopted an address to the people and passed an ordinance providing for a constitutional convention to meet in September of that year. This convention formulated a constitution which was submitted to the people that same year and adopted by a heavy majority. Bartlett Tripp was its president. This constitution was presented to Congress by a committee appointed by the convention, but the movement bore no fruit.

In 1885 the legislature passed a measure providing for a constitutional convention to be held at Sioux Falls. It was then thought that statehood was at hand. The convention met at Sioux Falls in September, and, after a session of sixteen days, adjourned, having formulated another constitution. A. J. Edgerton served as president of this convention. This constitution became the basis of the final constitution adopted in 1889. It was sub-



mitted by popular vote in November of the same year, the vote standing 25, 132 votes for and 6,522 against. At the same election a prohibition clause was voted upon, and carried by a vote of 15,522 in favor and 15,218 against. Minority representation was rejected by a vote of 11,256 for and 16,640 against. A full ticket of state officers was elected and also a legislature. The machinery of the proposed state was thus in full running order, and it only remained for the national government to give the word of authority to set things in motion. The provisional legislature held a meeting, listened to a message from Governor Mellette of the provisional government, and elected two United States senators. It was confidently believed that Congress would recognize what had been done and admit the state with the organization as it had been made.

When it was seen that Congress would take no action, the question was raised whether or not a state could not enter upon the functions of statehood without the authorization of Congress. This question was argued in the press and on the "stump." But radical counsel did not prevail, and the people waited four years more for the boon of statehood.

In 1889 Congress passed a bill providing for the division and admission of the territory. This was known as the "Omnibus Bill." Statehood for Montana and Washington was also a part of this measure. By the terms of this act the Sioux Falls constitution was again to be presented to the people for adoption after it had been amended in such a way as to conform to the requirements of the enabling act. The vote of the adoption of the constitution was taken October 1, 1889, and out of 69,658 votes cast only 3,247 were against the adoption of the constitution. A prohibition amendment was also adopted, but this was repealed in 1897.

At this election state officers were chosen and a full legislature elected. Pierre was chosen as a temporary capital. The following year came the capital contest for a permanent location, and in this Pierre was again successful.

The enabling act for the admission of the Dakotas, Montana, and Washington, like the Ordinance of 1787, contained articles of a compact between the states thus admitted and the United States. These articles of the compact were made irrevocable without the consent of the United States and the people of the respective states admitted by the act. The compact was as

follows:

First--"That perfect toleration of religious sentiment shall be secured, and that no inhabitant of said state shall ever be molested in person or property on account of his or her mode of religious worship."

Second--"(1) That the state shall forever disclaim all right and title to unappropriated public lands within its borders; (2) that United States public lands shall not be taxed by the state; (3) that lands belonging to a citizen of the United States residing outside of the state shall not be taxed higher than the lands of citizens of the state."

Third--"That the debts and liabilities of the territory shall be assumed and paid by the state."

Fourth--"That provision shall be made for the establishment and maintenance of systems of public schools, which shall be open to all the children of the state, and free from sectarian control."

III. STATE HISTORY.

THE CONSTITUTION.

The state constitution as adopted in 1889 is one of the most voluminous documents of its kind. It contains twenty-six articles, and embraces within its limits almost every detail of state organization, and provides for many of the features of county and township organizations. A prominent feature of the constitution is Article VI, a Bill of Rights, of twenty-seven articles, and in this is enumerated almost every one of the guarantees which obtain under modern republican government. The constitution, as thus formulated, is an instance of the tendency in modern constitution-making to embody very much of what is legitimately legislation rather than the mere statement of the form and functions of government. Opinions differ very much as to the utility of this kind of constitution. Governor Mellette said before the Constitutional Convention of North Dakota, "If you know the proper things to embrace in the constitution, the more there is in it the better. One of the greatest evils is excessive legislation--the constant change of laws every two years, and the squabbles and debates over the different questions that constantly arise." Judge T.M. Cooley of Michigan, who had been brought to North Dakota to address the Constitutional Convention on the principles and the theory of constitution-making, said, "Do not



in your constitution-making legislate too much. Leave something for the legislature. You have to trust somebody in the future, and it is right and proper that each department of the government should be trusted to perform its legitimate functions." The constitutions of both North and South Dakota are good examples of what may be called legislative constitutions. Already the wisdom of such constitutions is in question. Numerous amendments to the constitution have been submitted to the people from time to time and adopted. Thus, in the short space of a little over one decade of state life, the constitution has been modified in several important matters. The clause prohibiting the manufacture and sale of liquors, adopted at the time of the constitution, was stricken from that document by the amendment of 1897.

In 1898 the people of South Dakota adopted the initiative and the referendum as a part of the law-making mechanism, and it became a part of the constitution. South Dakota was thus the first state to adopt this important principle of modern democratic government. By the provisions of this amendment the principle of the initiative and referendum was made operative in municipalities. Although there has been no instance of the application of either of these forms of popular law-making to affairs of the state, yet in several instances they have been successfully applied to the affairs of cities. It remains to be seen what success may attend this effort to democratize the state by giving the people a limited veto power and the right of initiating legislation. It is probably true that the possibility of popular action in these ways acts as something of a check and a restraint upon legislation. In various parts of the country the necessity of the referendum and initiative is being actively urged, and numerous inquiries from time to time come to our state regarding the successful operation of these principles.

POLITICAL HISTORY OF THE STATE.

The political history of the state has been comparatively uneventful. With the advent of statehood new problems confronted the people. All territorial laws applicable to the civil and political life of the people under the state were continued. The law had been codified in 1877, and six legislatures intervened prior to statehood. A large volume of legislation has marked the legislative history of the state. In 1900 a commission was appointed to codify all state law. The committee appointed for this labor

was Bartlett Tripp, Gideon C. Moody and James Brown. The work of the commission was accepted by the legislature of 1903.

The population of the state by the census of 1890 was 328,808. The census of 1900 gave the state a total of 401,570 people, an increase of over 22 per cent in ten years. From the first South Dakota has had two representatives at Washington.

The state officers elected at the first election in the fall of 1899 were as follows: Arthur C. Mellette, governor; J.H. Fletcher, lieutenant governor; Amund O. Ringsrud, secretary of state; Lucius C. Taylor, auditor; William F. Smith, treasurer; Robert Dollard, attorney-general; Alphonzo G. Kellam, Dighton Cerson, and John E. Bennett, judges of the supreme court; Gilbert L. Pinkham, superintendent of public instruction; O.H. Parker, commissioner of school and public lands. John A. Pickler and Oscar S. Gifford were elected members of Congress.

On November 2d, by the proclamation of President Harrison, South Dakota became one of the states of the union, and on that same day its legislature convened in a special session to elect two United States senators. Sutton E. Young was chosen speaker of the house, and Richard F. Pettigrew and Gideon C. Moody were elected senators. Senator Pettigrew was seated for the full term of six years, but Senator Moody drew a two-year term. At the legislature of 1890 Senator Moody failed of a re-election, and James H. Kyle, of Aberdeen, was chosen as his successor. Mr. Kyle's election was accomplished by the united vote of the democratic and populist members of the legislature. This was the first important event in the history of the populist party in the state. The party was formed from the liberal elements of both the republican and democratic parties. Its origin can be directly traced to the Farmers' Alliance movement, which had gradually come to have political purposes and political influence. Mr. Robinson, in his History of South Dakota, thus describes the party struggle in the legislature which resulted in the election of Mr. Kyle as senator:

"The senatorial contest began on Jan. 20, and thirty-eight ballots were taken, terminating Feb. 16, before an election resulted. Gideon C. Moody was the republican caucus nominee for re-election. Bartlett Tripp received the democratic strength, and the independent vote was divided among several leaders. There were 169 votes on joint ballot, 85 being necessary for a choice when all members were present and voting. On the first ballot

Gideon C. Moody received 76 votes; Bartlett Tripp, 24; James W. Harden, 20; George C. Crose, 15; Alonzo Wardall, 10; Samuel W. Crosand, 9; Hugh J. Campbell, 5; H.C. Preston, 3; Z.D. Scott, 2; and Oscar S. Gifford, Eugene A. Dye, William Elliot, and Americus B. Melville, 1 vote each. The balloting continued without material change until Feb. 5, when the republicans concentrated the greater portion of their strength upon Americus B. Melville, giving him 53 votes, while 56 independent votes were on that day given to Hugh J. Campbell, Mr. Tripp retaining his original strength. On Feb. 11 the republicans again presented Mr. Moody with 67 votes, the independent strength for the first time on this day being concentrated on James H. Kyle, who received 59 votes. On Feb. 13 the republicans presented Thomas Sterling as the party candidate and gave him 64 votes, which owing to an unusual number of absentees on that day lacked five votes only of an election. On Sunday, Feb. 15, a number of independent members signified their intention of voting for Governor Mellette, a republican, unless an election was reached at the first ballot on Monday morning. This announcement led the democratic members to come to an agreement with the independent members to unite upon the election of Mr. Kyle, which agreement was carried out at the session on Monday, February 16, when Mr. Kyle received 75 votes, a majority of all present, thus terminating the contest."

In 1897 Senator Kyle stood for re-election, and another exciting contest occurred in the legislature. The circumstances of his former election had contributed to make him practically an independent in politics. At his second election he would have been defeated had it not been for the combined vote of the populist and republican members of the legislature. The republicans were so much in the minority that their only chance to control the election was to combine with another party. As the democrats had only nine votes on joint ballot, the only chance of an election lay in the fusion of the republican and populist parties.

At the second state election few changes occurred in the personnel of the state officers and members of Congress as elected in 1889. William Walter Taylor succeeded William F. Smith as treasurer; Cortez Salmon succeeded Gilbert L. Pinkham as superintendent of public instruction; and Thomas H. Ruth succeeded O.H. Parker as commissioner of school and public lands. John R. Gamble was elected to Congress to succeed Oscar S. Gifford.



Mr. Gamble died in the summer of 1891 before he had ever taken his seat, and John L. Jolley was chosen at a special election to fill his place.

Probably no single event in the history of the state produced more consternation and alarm than the defalcation of Treasurer William W. Taylor in 1895. He was unable to make his settlements as outgoing treasurer, rather than face the consequence he absconded with all the cash in the treasury. His defalcation footed up to about \$367,000. He finally returned and surrendered himself for trial. He received the longest sentence possible under the law then existing, and served a two-year term in the penitentiary. Mr. Taylor's crime brought heavy losses upon his bondsmen, and great embarrassment to the finances of the state. Ex-Governor Mellette, as one of Treasurer Taylor's bondsmen, cheerfully surrendered all of his property to the state for his share of the liability, and then bravely faced the world again, a poor man. He removed to Kansas and engaged in the practice of the law. His death occurred in 1896, and his body was brought back to Watertown, his home city in the state, for burial. Governor Mellette was a man whose ability was respected by all, and whose honesty and sincerity were never questioned. As a politician he could rise above partisanship and stand for his convictions of right. His memory will always be cherished by the people of South Dakota.

In the election of 1896 Andrew E. Lee was elected Governor over Amund O. Ringsrud, the republican candidate. Mr. Lee, originally a republican, was one of the leaders of the populist party, and he received the combined support of populist and democratic parties. With him were elected by the populist or fusion vote, John E. Kelley and Freeman Knowles as representatives, and Melvin E. Grigsby as attorney-general. In 1898 Governor Lee was re-elected, all the remainder of the state ticket being carried by the republicans. Robert J. Gamble and Charles H. Burke at this election were chosen representatives to Congress by the republican vote.

The men who have served as governor, together with their terms of office, are as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Arthur C. Mellette | 1889-93 |
| Charles H. Sheldon | 1893-97 |
| Andrew E. Lee | 1897-01 |
| Charles N. Herreid | 1901--- |

The state has been represented in the lower house of Congress by the following men:

Oscar S. Gifford--Elected in 1889.

James A. Pickler--Elected in 1889; re-elected successively in 1890, 1892, and 1894.

John R. Gamble--Elected in 1890, but died before taking his seat.

John L. Jolley--Elected in 1891 to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Gamble.

William V. Lucas--Elected in 1892.

Robert J. Gamble--Elected in 1894, and re-elected in 1898.

John C. Kelley--Elected in 1896.

Freeman Knowles--Elected in 1896.

Charles H. Burke--Elected in 1898, and re-elected in 1900 and 1902.

Eben W. Martin--Elected in 1900, and re-elected in 1902.

Senators from South Dakota have been elected as follows:

Richard F. Pettigrew--Elected in 1889. He drew the six-year term, and was re-elected in 1895.

Gideon C. Moody--Elected in 1889, drawing the two-year term.

James H. Kyle--Elected in 1891, and re-elected in 1897. He died July 1, 1902.

Alfred B. Kittredge--Appointed in 1902 as successor to Mr. Kyle. He was elected by the last legislature of 1903 for the term ending March 3, 1909.

Robert J. Gamble--Elected in 1901.

The rise of the populist party in the state and its accession to power under Governor Lee constitutes one of the most interesting phases of our political history. The election of Mr. Kyle as senator in 1891 came as an entire surprise. The career of the man is entirely characteristic of some phases of the political life of his country. That a man who had previously entertained no ideas of political ambition and had never made any effort at poli-



tical advancement should reach the high office of United States senator and be re-elected to that position is certainly a remarkable commentary upon the political possibilities of this country. Senator Gamble, in his memorial address before the senate of the United States upon the life and character of Senator Kyle, thus speaks of his entrance to the political arena and his relations to political parties:

"His career certainly is marked and anomalous in our political history. To have been elected, in the first instance, as the result of a compromise between two distinct party organizations; in the second, to have been opposed in the legislature by a large majority of his party associates, and the republican organization being responsible for his election, and finally giving him adherence to that party and declaring his purpose to be a republican candidate as his own successor, is a situation worthy of passing reference."

THE MESSIAH WAR.

Our state history has been marked by only one disturbance of the peaceful relations of the Indians and the white population. In 1890 the Indians of the northwest, for various reasons, were in more or less of a discontented and hostile attitude. The causes for this attitude are to be found in the following facts: (1) The crop failures for two or three years had borne with especial hardness upon the Indians. They could not, like the white man, migrate to another section or resort to other lines of employment when crop failures reduced them to poverty. (2) The Indians claimed that the national government had not fulfilled its treaty obligations with them, and that as a consequence of this they had suffered for food. The insufficiency in the supply of rations served out to the Indians was admitted by all who were conversant with the facts. (3) By the treaty of 1889, the Indians had relinquished another large area of land to settlement west of the Missouri river and east of the Black Hills. The influx of settlers to these lands, together with the narrowing of their reservation limits tended to render the Indians dissatisfied and hostile. (4) The Messiah delusion, originated and fostered by the Indians of the western coast, combined with the other influences to send the Indians on the war-path against the whites.

In 1889 a conclave of Indians, with some whites, was held near Pyramid lake in Nevada, which was attended by representatives of not less than sixteen tribes of Indians. A new religion was proclaimed, and it was announced that the Messiah had returned to them. The deception was carried out by men



masquerading as the Christ. The "new religion" was to be proclaimed to the Indians first, the earth was to be renewed, all their dead were to be resurrected, and all whites who would not accept the new revelation were to be destroyed. Implicit obedience to the commands of the returned Messiah was demanded. Various fantastic ideas of perpetual youth and a material paradise upon the renewed earth were impressed upon the eager and superstitious minds of the Indians present at this conclave. The Messiah taught them various religious ceremonies, among which was what has been termed the "ghost dance," a sacred dance, in which the dancer wore a shirt or hunter's frock which was believed to become bullet proof by being sanctified.

The leading spirits among the hostiles were Sitting Bull, at Standing Rock Agency; Hump and Big Foot, at Cheyenne River Reservation; Short Bull and Kicking Bear, at Pine Ridge Agency. Sitting Bull was the great war chief of these Indians and the head of the hostile movement. His runners traveled in all directions carrying the news of the proposed rising. All the tribes in the northwest were visited and notified to prepare for the movement. Arms and ammunition were to be gathered, and the warriors were to meet in the spring of 1891 near the Black Hills. The energy with which the military arm under General Miles met this situation averted what might have been one of the greatest Indian wars of recent times.

General Miles in his report said, "The peace of an area of country equal to an empire was in peril. The states of Nebraska, the two Dakotas, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, and the territory of Utah, were liable to be overrun by a hungry, wild, mad horde of savages. The old theory that the destruction of vast herds of buffalo had ended Indian wars, is not well founded. The same country is now covered with domestic cattle and horses, and the Indians would have, in what they believed to be a righteous crusade, looted the scattered homes, and lived and traveled upon the domestic stock of the settlers. Pillage would have been followed by rapine and devastation."

Short Bull and Kicking Bear with about three thousand warriors began the hostile movement in November, 1890, by leading their force into the Bad Lands on the White river. They subsisted by looting the homes of both Indian and white people. It was expected by the Indian leaders to gather all the hostile element of their people at this appointed rendezvous, and thence

proceed on a campaign of plunder and pillage.

The attempt to arrest Sitting Bull resulted in the death of himself and seven of his warriors. Almost an equal number of the faithful Indian police, who carried out the orders for the arrest of this leader, were killed.

Sitting Bull was one of the most able and shrewd of Indian leaders. He ranks with Pontiac, Tecumseh, and Red Jacket of earlier days. He was the representative and the leader of all the discontented Indians, and his whole career was characterized by hostilities to the whites. He opposed the United States in the making of the treaty of 1876. He fought General Crook and his troops that same year, and was undoubtedly present when General Custer and his command were annihilated. In 1877 he escaped to British territory, to return in 1879 and meet a severe defeat at the hands of General Miles and his troops. In 1881 he returned, voluntarily surrendered to the United States troops, and was imprisoned for two years, when he was transferred to Standing Rock Agency, where he was at the time he met his death.

Chief Hump at Cheyenne Agency was notified to come in and surrender. He readily did this, somewhat against general expectation; but Big Foot, a warrior under him, escaped with quite a following and started for the camp of Short Bull in the Bad Lands. He was intercepted near Wounded Knee creek by Major Whiteside, and forced to surrender, but not until an engagement had occurred in which thirty soldiers were killed and about 200 Indians, men, women, and children.

This unfortunate affair prolonged hostilities. Short Bull and Kicking Bear, with their hostile following, were about to return to the Agency and surrender, but upon hearing of the Wounded Knee engagement persisted in their hostile attitude. Some of their warriors, late in December, approached the Catholic Mission near Pine Ridge and set fire to one of the buildings. Troops were sent out after these Indians, and they were driven off with nothing more serious than a skirmish. This was known as the Mission Fight.

The hostility of the Indians was increased, and within a short time they made an attack upon a wagon train of the cavalry, and on January 3, 1891, attacked Capt. Carr's Troop of the Sixth Cavalry in their effort to press toward the west.

The pacific attitude of General Miles, his intimate knowledge of the Indian character, and a personal acquaintance with many of their leaders, made it possible for him to bring the Indians to see the utter futility of

war with the whites. He sent messengers among them telling them of the disposition of the government to right their wrong. While exercising the utmost vigilance, he advised the Indians of the large force of troops which hemmed them in upon all sides. Supplies of food were increased and the Indians were promised kind treatment. On the 16th of January, 1891, the hostile Indians came into Pine Ridge Agency and surrendered their guns to the number of about 700. Short Bull, Kicking Bear, and twenty warriors were taken as hostages for the good behavior and good faith of the Indians, and were sent to Fort Sheridan, Illinois. General Miles also arranged for a commission of ten of the most influential and faithful Indians to visit Washington and lay their grievances before the authorities there.

The time occupied in reaching the successful conclusion of this threatening affair was only thirty-two days from the arrest of Sitting Bull until the surrender of the entire hostile camp of about four thousand Indians at Pine Ridge Agency.

THE SPANISH WAR.

The people of South Dakota showed their martial spirit for the second time in the Spanish-American War which began in 1898. As in their first experience, at the time of the Indian War in 1862-5, their action was prompt and effective. A regiment of infantry was organized under Colonel Alfred C. Frost. The lieutenant colonel was Lee Stover, and the majors were Charles A. Howard and William F. Allison. The regiment was mustered in at Sioux Falls in May, 1898, with thirteen companies, comprising 1,008 men.

The regiment did not arrive at the scene of action in the Philippine Islands until late in August. In the Battle of Manila, which marked the opening of hostilities with the United States troops, the regiment took an active part. It had a prominent and an honorable part in the campaign to the north of the island of Luzon in the spring of 1899, the objective point of which was the capture of the insurgent capital, Malolos. The regiment was on the firing line for one hundred and twenty-three days. At the battle of Marilao, March 27, 1899, it was in the forefront of one of the most desperate charges of the entire campaign. Its record for fighting qualities was excelled by that of no organization in the Philippine War. Many acts of personal daring distinguished its members. Sergeant John Holman and Captain Clayton

Van Houten were promoted for bravery in action.

Four men of the regiment died of wounds, thirty-two died from diseases, and twenty-three were killed in action. The regiment was mustered out at San Francisco, October 5, 1899, and the members were welcomed home by President McKinley and members of his cabinet who were upon a tour through the state at the time of their arrival.

A battalion of cavalry was organized in the state by Melvin S. Grigsby, which became known as "Grigsby's Cowboys." The Cowboy Cavalry was sent to Chickamauga, the gathering point for the troops destined for the invasion of Cuba, but they were never called into active service. They were mustered out in August, 1898.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE STATE.

Statehood for South Dakota came in a period of industrial depression. The year in which South Dakota was admitted is known as a year of great drouth. The people of Dakota were unprepared for such an entire failure of crops as they then experienced. Having very largely devoted themselves to wheat growing, the practical failure of the entire crop that year reduced them to a condition of distress and poverty. The following year was also a year of crop failure, and these untoward conditions left the people in poor condition to meet the financial depression which spread over the entire country in 1893. The financial panic of this year bore with especial hardness upon the people of South Dakota who were just beginning to lay the foundation of prosperity. Many of the farmers had mortgages upon their land which were foreclosed in spite of all that they could do. Immense areas of land passed into the hands of eastern money loaners. There was no recovery, therefore, from the conditions of depression, resulting from the crop failures of 1889-90 until about the year 1895. Since that time there has been remarkably rapid growth in all lines and phases of industry within the state.

In 1890 the condition of the drouth victims was so serious that Governor Mellette felt constrained to appeal to the commercial centers of the eastern states for help. He first appealed to the people of the state to aid those who had lost their all in the crop failures. So unsatisfactory was the response that he personally visited some of the eastern cities to bring the situation of the Dakota farmers to the attention of the people of wealth in those centers. One of the most important features of this plan was to secure seed wheat for the farmers to use in the spring sowing. The appeal

of Governor Mellette resulted in raising nearly \$40,000, which furnished an ample sum to relieve the necessities of all. One of the most urgent needs was that of fuel, and many were supplied with necessary fuel for the winter out of the funds thus raised. The Governor was much criticized for his efforts to raise money in the east on the ground that wrong impressions of the state would become current. This criticism came from many sources, but principally from those interested in the sale of farm lands and in town lot speculation. As seen from the view point of later years, Governor Mellette was entirely justified in the course he pursued, but it nevertheless cost him something in the way of political popularity.

The leading industry of the state has been and is agriculture, but mining interests have held an important place in its productive resources. In later years certain lines of manufacturing industries have gradually developed. The output of gold from the mines of the Black Hills for ten months of the year 1902 was over seven and a quarter millions of dollars. The total output of minerals in the state for 1903 is estimated at not less than \$15,000,000.

The following figures of the wheat crop for the years given below serve to illustrate the development of the agricultural industry: (12)

The wheat crop of Dakota Territory for
 1860 was 945 bushels.
 1870 170,662 bushels.
 1880 2,830,289 bushels on 265,298 acres

The wheat crop of South Dakota was for
 1890 16,541,138 bushels on 2,259,846 acres.
 1899 41,889,330 bushels on 3,984,659 acres.

One of the most important results of the industrial depression from 1889 to 1895 was to force farmers of the state to diversify the lines of their industry. The wheat farms of the northern and central portions of the state have been turned to more general uses. The dairy industry has since sprung into importance, and the establishment of creameries since 1895 has led to something of a revolution in the farming industry. At present there seems to be a movement by which the creamery industry is returning

again to the individual farmers, a result due in all probability to the invention of the hand separator and other machinery that can be put into use on the farm.

The large increase in bank deposits in recent years, the rapid development of all lines of industry, the increase in commercial values and ratings, the growth of towns and cities, the improvements in home surroundings, all testify to the substantial prosperity which has come to the state as it enters upon the second decade of its existence. The material resources of South Dakota are on a par with those of the neighboring states of Minnesota and Iowa, and when time shall have been given for their development the wealth and material prosperity of the state will be second to none in the Middle West.

EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND RELIGIOUS HISTORY.

In no line has the state developed more rapidly than in education. In 1889 South Dakota entered the union with 2,978 schools and 3,971 teachers. By the report of the superintendent of public instruction for 1902 there were 4,380 schools and 5,052 teachers in the state.

The state is generously provided with institutions of higher education, both public and private. All of the state educational institutions were founded in territorial days, and the same is true of most of the private or denominational colleges. The State University, at Vermilion, was granted its charter by the first territorial legislature, in 1862, and was opened October 16, 1852. Yankton College is the earliest private institution established in Dakota. It was founded in 1861 by Rev. Joseph Ward. He came to the territory in 1868 to take charge of the Congregational church which had been organized in the early part of that year. Mr. Ward opened a private school soon after his arrival in which were taught "the English branches, with higher mathematics and languages."

Religious influences have been prominent factors in the development of South Dakota. Nearly all religious denominations are represented in the state, having entered the territory at an early day not only for the purpose of doing active religious work, but for the further purpose of establishing themselves in the early communities of what even then was believed would become a great commonwealth. It was no uncommon thing in territorial days to find several religious denominations struggling for a foothold and for existence in a small town of a few hundred inhabitants, with the idea of

holding the ground until the growth of population and material wealth created both the demand and the means for their existence.

Barring missionary work among the Indians, the Methodists are credited with being the first religious body to begin their work in South Dakota. Their work was organized at Vermilion as early as 1860. The Catholics were also early in the field. Bishop Marty, as vicar apostolic, came to Dakota in 1880 and organized a bishopric upon the basis of the missionary work of several Catholic priests who had already prepared the way for this organized movement.

The enthusiasm and devotion manifested in church work in the state, and earlier in the territory, has rarely been surpassed. Both Catholics and Protestants have been very active in establishing schools which are conducted under religious auspices, the influence of which has been widespread; and both have been active in missionary work among the Indians of the territory and the state.

CONCLUSION

Man is always prone to prophesy. The role of the prophet, however, is a difficult one. Especially is this true in these days of rapid development, when the Seven Wonders of the World have been forgotten in the contemplation of the modern wonders of everyday life which science has revealed, and the genius of industry utilized in the industrial processes of the present. The settlement of South Dakota and its industrial development are significant but characteristic movements rendered possible by the inventive genius and scientific knowledge which have revolutionized all industrial processes, and lessened the limitations which the physical environment has, in the past, imposed upon humanity. Modern improvements in transportation and communication alone have rendered possible the settlement and development of such a commonwealth as South Dakota. For the settler of Dakota forty years ago to have foreseen and predicted the remarkable development of the Middle West, which has taken place within the last generation, ought to be sufficient to entitle him to the reputation of seer and prophet.

In concluding this brief sketch of our, territorial and state history, the writer will not venture to essay the role of prophet, however tempting the opportunity. He wishes to quote from the report of a Committee on the "Mineral

and Agricultural Resources of the Territory of Dakota," made to the fifth legislative assembly in 1865. With slight paraphrase this prophesy will aptly express the hopes and ambitions which inspire the men and women of our great commonwealth today. This prophecy of the past which has already received a large fulfillment, and is now brought down to the present to await a more generous and a larger realization, was presented to the legislature by W.W. Brookings, chairman of the committee, and with such change in its phraseology as will adapt it to the language of statehood, is as follows:

"Shall we not judge of the future by the past. As regards soil, climate, beautiful uplands, rich prairies, luxuriant bottoms, productive mountain valleys, mineral wealth, navigable rivers, upon which to float out cereal products and commercial exchanges, what section of the country within the broad confines of our republic, is fairer or lovelier or richer or more inviting, as the home of the active, intelligent, and industrious citizen? Before a generation shall have passed more than a million people will be living in the valley of the Missouri alone. Pacific railroads will have been completed connecting the two oceans with their iron bands. . . . The experiences of six thousand years, and the verification of all history is pointed and conclusive that activity, prosperity, and opulence are inseparably connected with the great lines of intercourse between nations.

"South Dakota possesses within itself all the elements which are necessary to constitute a great, prosperous, and powerful state. Our rich alluvial lands will produce the corn, and the broad prairie the nutritious grasses, which are ample to feed and support cattle to supply every market in the union. The Black Hills and the mountain ranges at the sources of the Wind river, Yellowstone and Missouri are rich beyond conception in mineral resources of coal, copper, iron and gold.

"With all these elements of power surrounding us, we need but numbers, combined with industry, intelligence, and virtue to make South Dakota one of the most desirable and potent states in the union."

This prophecy of the past is destined to a yet more striking fulfillment than our history has thus far recorded, and South Dakota will then stand second to none in the sisterhood of states.

NOTES AND CITATIONS.

- (1). Dakota Grammar, Texts and Ethnography, Government Printing Office, Washington, 1903.

(2). Robinson, History of South Dakota, Educator School Supply Company, Mitchell, 1900.

(3). Walker, The Making of a Nation, Scribner's, N.Y., 1901.

(4). J.H. Simpson, The March of Coronado.

(5). The Colonies, Longmans, Green and Company, N.Y., 1894.

(6). Of this printed notice for a mass convention Dr. Blackburn writes as follows in his posthumous History of Dakota published by the State Historical Society, Historical Collections, Vol. I:-- "The first document printed in Dakota was a notice, small in form but great in assumption of facts and of right. It ran: 'At a mass convention of the people of Dakota Territory, held in the town of Sioux Falls, September 18, 1858, all portions of the Territory being represented, it was resolved and ordered that an election be held for members to compose a Territorial legislature.--Dakota Democrat Print, Sioux Falls City.' The said Democrat, the first newspaper in Dakota, had not yet sent out its first number, but there was no partiality in making it the official organ of the body thus ordered elected, and that fall convened in the aforesaid town."

(7). Smith and Young, History and Government of South Dakota, Werner Company, Chicago, 1901.

(8). An exaggerated idea prevailed in the territory at a later time regarding the waterpower to be found on the Big Sioux. The Committee on Mineral, Agricultural, and Manufacturing Resources in its report to the fifth legislature in 1865-6 thus speaks of the waterpower of the Sioux:

"At Sioux Falls the Big Sioux river falls in a few rods over one hundred feet, there are three perpendicular falls, one twelve, fifteen, and twenty-one feet. Gov. Jayne speaking of this waterpower says, 'The falls on the Big Sioux furnish a motive power sufficient to drive all the machinery of the New England mills.'"

(9). Smith and Young, History and Government of South Dakota, Werner Company, 1901.

(10). House Journal, Fourth Legislative Assembly of Dakota Territory.

(11). Dr. Robinson's Notes on Historical Sketch of North and South Dakota, Vol. I, Publications State Historical Society.

(12). Abstracts of the United States Census for the years 1890 and 1900.

.. (Copied from Peterson's Historical Atlas of South Dakota, pages 166-177.)

6th

HISTORY OF DAKOTA.

The "Land of the Dacotahs" is peculiarly rich in aboriginal traditions. A history of savage life within its borders, the origin, intermingling, war-fares, mutations, diminishment and gradual disappearance of the red races that have inhabited it since the years beyond the limits of authentication, would necessarily be tinged with the rhythm of barbaric folk-lore; and since this is true of the most prosaic of these records, it is no wonder the dealer in the imagery of fiction has found herein abundance of material for poetic exaggeration. Whether or not "it is pretty clearly established that the primitive tribes of the Northwest migrated from Eastern Asia, and in their early drifting, like sea-foam, across the northwestern waters, brought with them a glimmer of civilized history, which has long since vanished into tradition, in the chase and war-path of the wilderness," may be left to the deliberation of the professional ethnologist or the amateur in love with the study of the curious. Certain it is, that this theory has become tacitly accepted, apart from speculation as to a sufficient reasonableness of hypothesis.

...:It is claimed that the Indian tribes, who inhabited this vast region at this time, were the great race of the "Sioux,"--the Hurons, Iroquois, Winnebagoes, Wyandottes, Illinois and Foxes--all families of the great Dakota nation, and at war with the whole Algonquin race of the Atlantic coast. The introduction among the Algonquins of fire-arms, steel arrows and battle axes by Canadian traders, were effectual weapons against the flint-headed arrows and wooden war clubs of the Dakotas, and the great nation, defeated and pursued by the conquerors, fled toward the regions of the setting sun. Very little is known concerning the tribes that inhabited Dakota prior to that bloody era. "Tradition says that the Cheyenne (Shiens, or Dog,) Indians were once a powerful nation, and were the first race of people who migrated to the Missouri Valley; that after having been repeatedly driven down from the regions of the North, they located on a western tributary of the Red River, where their blood poured out in battle against their invading foes, mingling with the waters of the northern stream, changed its hue, and gave it the name of the blood-colored or Red River of

the North. Again they were defeated, and again they struck their tents and fled, with the bleeding remnants of their tribe, across the northern plains of Dakota, and formed a new home on a stream that enters with the Missouri from the west, which they called the Cheyenne.

"Charlevoix relates of the primitive tribes of Southern Dakota, that, nearly two centuries ago, the Iowas, Omahas and Ottoes were in this portion of the territory, and roamed and warred through the regions watered by the Des Moines, Big Sioux and James, or Dakota, Rivers, and that these tribes annually assembled in peace around their sacred council fires at the Great Red Pipestone Quarry. From here they were afterwards driven south and west by the great nation of Dakotas moving down from the North like a mighty army, and covering the whole plain with their tents and war dances."

The period of this great Indian retrogression was probably some time before the beginning of the seventeenth century. Up to that era the Dakotas had remained as one nation; but during the great war and flight from the North, they had become disbanded and dispersed into smaller parties, and in order to be distinguished from other tribes, abandoned the ancient name of "Nadsucessioux," or "Sioux," and called themselves Dakotas, or the "friendly people." Since that period, history and tradition agree in placing the Dakotas as masters of the vast region between the Mississippi and the Mountains. The Yanktons at that time inhabited the region between the James and the Big Sioux Rivers, and were known as the "tribe that lives at the end;" all the tribes to the northwest of them were called "those who came over the mountains from the sea."

In 1762, France ceded the whole northwestern territory to Spain, who in turn, in 1800, receded it to France, by which latter government it was transferred to the United States, in 1803, for fifteen millions of dollars. The number of white inhabitants in the whole northwestern territory at that early day, is variously estimated at from one to less than five thousand, the only "footprints of civilization" from the Great Lakes to the Pacific Ocean being the small trading posts where now stand, among others, the present cities of St. Louis, Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee, San Francisco and Astoria. Mention is made by the early navigators of the Missouri River, of seven poor families a few miles above the present city of St. Louis, which

was the only settlement of white people in the Missouri River Valley in 1803. In 1787, the territory northwest of the Ohio River, lying east of the Mississippi, was framed into a separate Territory, which in 1800 was divided into the Territories of Indiana and Illinois, and in 1805 the Territory of Michigan was established. Soon after the purchase of Louisiana from France in 1803, the territory west of the Missouri was divided, and all south of the 39th degree was called the Territory of New Orleans.

During the administration of President Jefferson, in 1804-5, Congress and the President authorized the exploration of the great unknown West, by way of the Missouri River and the Rocky Mountains, to the Northern Pacific Coast, the party to report to the Government the result of their discoveries and adventures. Thus was created the famous Lewis and Clark expedition, Captains Lewis and Clark, with a band of forty-two men, starting from St. Louis, in open sail and oar boats, on the 14th of May, 1804, upon a journey of five thousand miles through an unknown wilderness, inhabited only by wild tribes of Indians. They were the first party of American explorers to ascend the Missouri River into the land of the Dakotas, their printed Journal affording to the world the earliest written description of this great valley of the Northwest. They reached the Big Sioux River, the present eastern boundary of Dakota, on the 21st of August, 1804; on the 28th of October they arrived at the old Mandan Indian villages, above the present crossing of the Northern Pacific Railroad, and began the construction of log huts and stockades for their winter quarters. Here they passed the winter of 1804-5, and on the 7th of April, 1805, launched their boats on the river to continue their devious and perilous journey mountainward. The great Falls of the Missouri River, near the western boundary of Dakota Territory, as originally organized, were discovered on the 13th of June, and on the 12th of August, the enthusiastic little party of adventurers stood upon the summit of the great range of the Rocky Mountains, around the little spring from which came bubbling the remotest waters of the great Missouri. "They had now reached that hidden source which had never before been seen by civilized man; and as they quenched their thirst at the chaste and ice fountain,--as they sat down by the rivulet which yielded its distant but modest tribute to the parent ocean,--they felt themselves rewarded for all their labors and difficulties." Crossing the mountains on horseback, they reached the source of the Columbia, built canoes, and descended

that mighty river to the Pacific Coast, where they passed the winter of 1805-6, among the Indians, living in bark and earth huts, and speaking a jargon of languages like the natives of Indian and Tartary, from which countries many of the early Indian tribes of the Northwest are believed to have migrated.

During their westward journey, on the morning of the 27th of August, 1804, the Lewis and Clark expedition passed the mouth of the James River, when an Indian swam to their boats and informed them that a large body of Sioux were encamped in their immediate vicinity. Three men, with an interpreter, were dispatched to the Sioux camp, while the boats proceeded on about eleven miles, where, on a beautiful plain, near Calumet Bluff, above where Yankton now stands, the party encamped and waited the arrival of the Sioux. A speech and appropriate presents were prepared, and here at noon the chiefs and warriors of the Yanktons arrived, and were received in council under a large oak tree, near which the American flag was flying. Thus, nearly four-score years ago, did this little band of American adventurers first fling to the breeze of an unknown wild the flag of the American Republic, on the spot where now stands the capital of a vigorous and growing Territory, with its sturdy population of over two hundred thousand energetic souls, and on the threshhold of admission to the mighty sisterhood of States.

Soon after the Lewis and Clark expedition, American traders and adventurers began to push their way into the thitherto unknown Northwest, establishing posts for the trade in furs with the natives. The goods for the trade with the Dakotas were brought up the river in open boats, propelled by oars and wind, and "cordalled" over the bars with long two ropes fastened to the boats and drawn by men walking along the shores. The furs and peltries were taken to the distant St. Louis market in the spring, the journeys down the upper tributaries being often made in circular boats of skins, with which the channel could be followed, regardless of the sand-bars, snags and darkness. The Missouri Fur Company was established in 1808; the American Fur Company, by John Jacob Astor, of New York, in 1809, and about this time the first trading posts were established in the country drained by the Missouri River. Astor fitted out the first overland fur party in 1811, who voyaged in oar-boats up the Missouri River to the Aricka-

ree Indian villages, and thence overland across the country north of the Black Hills, through the Wind River and the Rocky Mountains to Astoria, on the Pacific Coast. The Rocky Mountain Fur Company commenced to make annual expeditions to the head-waters of the Missouri in 1826. The American Fur Company, stimulated by this competition, extended their operations, until, in 1832, it had become the controlling corporation in the whole Northwest. It is claimed that Pierre Choteau, of this company, was the first man to run a steamboat up the Missouri River into Dakota Territory, and under his pilotship the steamers Antelope and Yellowstone, in 1832 and 1833, were the first to plow Dakota's waters. The first steamboat had ascended the Mississippi to Fort Snelling, above the present city of St. Paul, ten years prior to this, and in the same year Lord Selkirk established the oldest settlement in Dakota, on Red River, near the British boundary.

Canada passed into the control of the British government in 1763, Mc-Kenzie, of the old Hudson Bay Company, leading the first party of white men across the continent, from the Canadian border to the Pacific, north of the 54th parallel, as early as 1787.

The old Northwest boundary of 49 degrees, between the United States and the British Possessions, was proposed in the early part of the present century, a long diplomatic controversy ensuing as to the rights of discovery and occupancy of the territory south of this boundary.

The first treaty with the Indians west of the Mississippi was made by General Scott, at Davenport, in 1832, and the great Territory of Wisconsin was organized in 1836, with Burlington as the capital, at which place, in 1837, the first Legislature northwest of the Mississippi River assembled. Father De Smet, in 1840, was the first to carry the cross of religion and the seeds of agriculture to the wild natives of the Rocky Mountain regions.

Connected with this era there is a period of history comprising the earlier expeditions of Robert Campbell's fur parties to the West, and the discovery of Great Salt Lake, 1826, and of Captain Bonneville's two years of adventure in the mountains with his train of trappers, in 1833-34, and of the early trials and wanderings of the Subletts, Choteaus, Wythe, Fitzpatrick, Henry, Stuart, and many others, who long ago led their cavalcades across the vast wilds of the Northwest, when no trace of civilized settlement could be found in all the country between the Missouri River and the Pacific Ocean; also the later explorations of Nicollet and Fremont, and of

Catlin, in 1833, Pope in 1849, and the still more recent expeditions of Stevens, Warren, Harney, Hayden, Mullen, Sully, and others; while the memorable slaughter of Colonel Fetterman and his whole command west of the Black Hills in the winter of 1865-66, the perishing in a snow-storm near Fort Wadsworth of Captain Fields and his soldiers, together with the terrible fate of General Custer and his mounted battalion of gallant men, all form a part of the pioneer history of the great Northwest.

Not until 1834 did the first American colony emigrate to the Pacific Coast, and in 1839 the first printing press was carried beyond the mountains. In 1835 the first newspaper in the Missouri Valley was published at Dubuque, in the then Territory of Wisconsin, from which vast region of country have since been carved and organized the Territories of Iowa in 1838, Minnesota in 1849, Nebraska in 1854, Dakota in 1861, Idaho in 1863, Montana in 1864; while still farther to the west, beyond the mountains, have been framed the Territories of Oregon in 1848, and Washington in 1853.

By act of Congress in 1849, a portion of Dakota was included within the boundaries of the newly organized Territory of Minnesota, which had hitherto remained a portion of the old county of St. Croix, in Wisconsin Territory. In 1851, at Traverse-de-Sioux, Minnesota, was consummated the memorable treaty between the United States and the upper bands of Dakota Indians, by the provisions of which the Government became possessed of the first acre of land in Dakota, to which the Indians had relinquished their title. It embraced a strip of land in the upper valley of the Big Sioux River, covering the present towns of Sioux Falls, Flandreau and Medary, including that portion of territory lying between the Big Sioux and the Minnesota State line and taking in the western shores of Big Stone Lake. In the same year the Minnesota Legislature divided their Territory into nine counties, one of which (Dakota County) covered all the country lying between St. Paul and Yankton, constituted the Sixth Council district, and was entitled to two Councilmen and one Representative in the Minnesota Legislature. In 1854 the Territory of Nebraska was organized, and included a large portion of that country which is now in Dakota, beyond the Running Water, at which time there was not a white settler on the Dakota side of the Missouri River. The Harney treaty was consummated in 1855, and his forces

marched from the Platte to the Missouri, and encamped for the winter at Fort Pierre. The command consisted of about 1,200 men, among the officers being the heroic Lyon, who fell in the war for the Union; Captain Gardner, a rebel general in the Southern army, and Captain J.B.S. Todd, the first Delegate to Congress from Dakota. In 1856, old Fort Lookout was occupied by the Government troops, and General Harney made his headquarters there; but early in the spring, he selected the site and commenced the erection of Fort Randall, where, in June of the same year, the two first companies of soldiers were landed by steamboat.

During the same season, Captain Sully, at the head of two companies, marched across the plains from Fort Abercrombie for the purpose of relieving a portion of the command at Fort Pierre, at which point he remained until 1858, and then recrossed the country to Fort Ridgely. Lyon remained in charge of Fort Lookout until the summer of 1858, when both Pierre and Lookout were abandoned, and with the exception of a few companies, stationed at Fort Randall, the military forces were removed from the frontiers to other parts of the country. During these early military movements, Lieutenant Warren and Dr. Hayden were prosecuting their scientific investigations in the mysterious regions of the Black Hills and Bad Lands, while no perceptible settlements had penetrated the Upper Missouri Valley, and the soil of Dakota was yet unbroken by the hand of civilized agriculture. A few adventurous pioneers had, however, entered the wilds and built cabins in the Indian country, preparatory to the consummation of the proposed treaties.

In the spring of 1857, the Interior Department sent A.S.H. White, an attache of the Indian Bureau, to visit the Yankton Indians, for the purpose of inducing them to send a delegation to Washington, with a view to negotiating a treaty ceding their lands, in what is now Southern Dakota, to the government. White's mission was unsuccessful, and in the fall of the same year, Capt. J.B.S. Todd, of Fort Randall, at the request of the Department, securing the services of Charles F. Picotte, who had great influence with the Indians, and who still resides at the Yankton Agency, succeeded in his enterprise, and early in the winter of 1857, started to Washington with the Yankton chiefs, accompanied by Mr. Picotte, as interpreter. April 19, 1858, a treaty was made with these Indians, by which they ceded to the United States all the lands owned, possessed, or claimed by them, wherever sit-

uated (except 400,000 acres, embracing their present Reservation) and described as follows:

"Beginning at the mouth of the Te-han-kas-an-data, or Calumet, or Big Sioux River; thence up the Missouri River to the Pa-hah-wa-kan, or East Medicine Knoll River; thence up the said river to its head; thence to the head of the main fork of the Wan-dush-ka-for, or Snake River; thence down said river to its junction with the Te-han-san-san, or Jaques River, or James River; thence in a direct line to the northern point of Lake Kampeska; thence along the northern shore of said lake and its outlet to the junction of the said outlet with the said Big Sioux River; thence down the Big Sioux River to its junction with the Missouri River. And they also cede and relinquish to the United States all their right and title to and in all the islands in the Missouri River, from the mouth of the Big Sioux River to the mouth of the Medicine Knoll Creek."

In consideration therefor the United States agreed to pay to them, or to expend for their benefit, the sum of \$65,000 per annum for ten years; \$40,000 per annum for and during ten years thereafter, \$25,000 per annum for and during ten years thereafter, and \$15,000 per annum for and during twenty years thereafter, making in all \$1,600,000 in annuities in the period of fifty years.

The following chiefs signed the treaty:

Pa-la-ne-a-pa-pe - The man that was struck by the Ree. Ma-to-sa-be-che-a - The Smutty Bear. Chas. F. Picotte - Eta-ke-cha. Ta-ton-ka-wete-co - The Crazy Bull. Pse-cha-wa-ke-a - The Jumping Thunder. Ma-ra-ha-ton - The Iron Horn. Nom-be-kah-pah - One that knocks down two. Ta-ton-ke-e-yak-ka - The Fast Bull. A-ha-ka-ma-ne - The walking Elk. A-ha-ka-na-zhe - The Standing Elk. A-ha-ka-ho-che-cha - The Elk with a Bad Voice. Cha-ton-wo-ka-pa - The Grabbing Hawk. E-ha-we-cha-sha - The Owl Man. Pia-son-wa-kan-na - The White Medicine Cow that Stands. Ma-ga-scha-che-ka - The Little White Swan. Oke-che-la-wash-ta - The Pretty Boy.

Immediately after the ratification of this treaty, A.H. Redfield, of Detroit, Mich., was appointed Agent for the Indians, and arrived in the Territory early in July. Buildings were at once erected on the site of the

present Agency, and the Indians were all located on the Reservation before winter. As soon as the Indians were removed, settlers began to come in rapidly, locating principally on Big Sioux Point, Elk Point, Vermillion and Yankton. The earlier locations by the Western Town Company, of Dubuque, and the Dakota Land Company, of St. Paul, Minn., at Sioux Falls, in 1857; by the latter Company at Medary, Flandreau and Emineza, in the same year; and the pioneer locations elsewhere in Southeastern Dakota, beginning with those of 1857, are treated of at length in their proper places in this History. The tracing of the progress of events in these early settlements, through the adventurous vicissitudes precedent to the populousness and prosperity of the present time, the details of hardships and struggles, the Provisional Government and the days of Squatter Sovereignty, form a very considerable portion of the task before us.

Here begins the date of permanent settlement in Dakota, when the retreating red race looked back upon the advancing sentinels of civilization, who had come to subdue the wilds and adorn the rivers with thriving villages. And here commences the written history of Dakota's white race, established in a land where "wild tribes of men have marched their armies over towns and fields, and fierce battles have been fought where, ere long, churches may rear their spires, and plough-shares turn furrows amidst the graves of buried races, and children play, perhaps, where generations of children have played before." A decade in the Northwest is a century among the older civilization of the East.

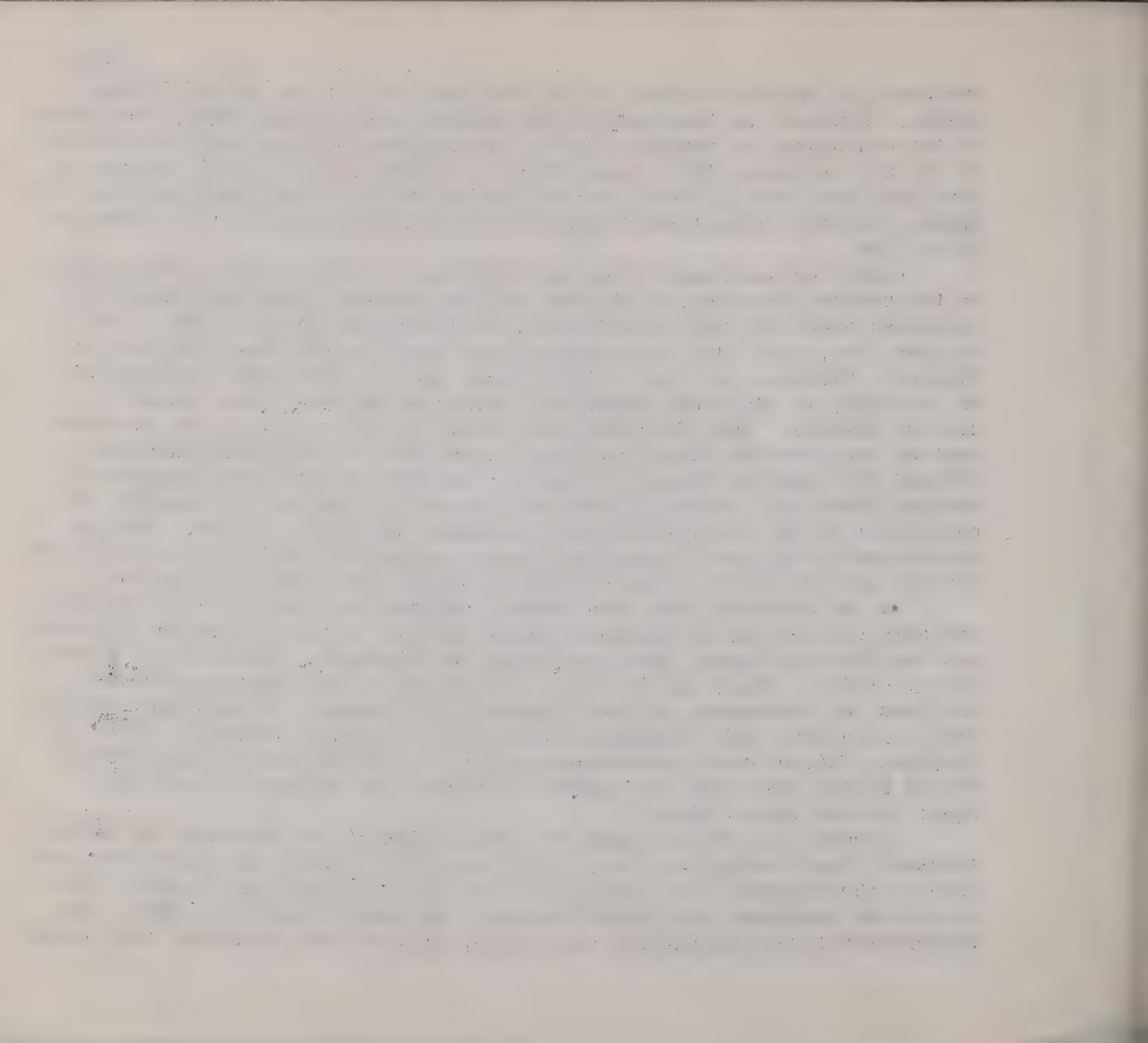
On the 8th of November, 1859, the settlers at Yankton held a meeting with D.T. Bramble as Chairman, and M.K. Armstrong, Secretary, and adopted a memorial petitioning Congress for a Territorial organization. A similar meeting was held at Vermillion on the 9th of the same month, at which J.A. Denton presided, and James McHenry was Secretary. In the meantime the people of the Sioux Falls settlement were similarly active. But the prayer of the people was unheeded, and amid the tumultuous preparations for a Presidential election, and the muttering throes of a Southern rebellion, Congress adjourned, leaving Dakota ungoverned and unorganized. Not to be discouraged by this partial failure, the pioneers assembled again in mass convention at Yankton, December 27, 1860, and again on January 15, 1861, and prepared earnest memorials to Congress, which having been signed by five hundred and seventy-eight citizens, were forwarded to the Speaker of

the House of Representatives and to the President of the United States Senate. Congress at last granted the prayer of the petitioners; the Organic Act was passed in February, 1861, and approved by President Buchanan on the 2d day of March, 1861, thus giving to Dakota a Territorial government. The Territory being at that time so far removed from railroads and the telegraph, the news did not reach Yankton until eleven days after the passage of the law.

Under the new boundaries, the Territory, at that time, comprised all of the present Territory of Montana and the eastern slope of Idaho, and contained about 350,000 square miles, being bounded on the north by the British line, east by Minnesota and Iowa, south by the Iowa line, and the Missouri, Niobrara and Turtle Hill Rivers, up and along the 43d parallel of latitude, to the Rocky Mountains; thence along their snowy range to British America. Some 70,000 square miles of this territory was situated east of the Missouri River, and constituted that country which had been trimmed off from the State of Minnesota in 1852; while a vast expanse of the new Territory, reaching from the Missouri to the Rocky Mountains, was carved out of the old Territory of Nebraska, as formed in 1854. Dakota, thus established, constituted the largest organized Territory in the United States, and afforded a river navigation of not less than 2,000 miles.

In the month of June, the Federal officers of the Territory arrived, and entered upon the discharge of their duties. William Jayne, of Illinois, was the first Governor; John Hutchinson, of Minnesota, Secretary; Philemon Bliss, of Ohio, Chief Justice; L.P. Williston, of Pennsylvania, and J.L. Williams, of Tennessee, District Judges; W.E. Gleeson, of Maryland, United States Attorney; W.F. Shaeffer, United States Marshal; George D. Hill, of Michigan, United States Surveyor-General; W.A. Burleigh, of Pennsylvania, United States Agent for the Yankton Indians; H.A. Hoffman, of New York, Agent for the Ponca tribe.

A census was taken showing the population of the Territory to be two thousand, four hundred and two, and on the 13th of July the first proclamation of the Governor was issued, dividing the Territory into judicial districts and assigning the judges thereto. On the 29th of July, 1861, the second executive proclamation was issued, dividing the Territory into legis-



lative districts, and appointing the 16th day of September for a general election to choose a Delegate in Congress, members of the Legislature and county officers.

And now for the first time the hardy pioneers of Dakota had to do with the perplexing questions of politics. Captain J.B.S. Todd appeared as the independent candidate for Delegate in Congress; a convention held at Vermillion in June nominated A.J. Bell as the Union candidate; while C.P. Booge declared himself as the people's candidate. Todd was supported by the Dakotaian, a newspaper, at Yankton, and Bell by the Republican at Vermillion, while Booge relied upon his stump speakers and fast horses. Election came and passed; five hundred and eighty-five votes were cast in the Territory, of which Todd received three hundred and ninety-seven, Booge one hundred and ten, and Bell seventy-eight. The Board of Territorial Canvassers therefor issued to Todd the certificate of election as first Delegate to Congress from Dakota. The Legislature chosen at the same election, consisting of nine members of the Council and thirteen members of the Lower House, was convened by the Governor at Yankton, March 17, 1862, and perfected its organization by the selection of J.H. Shober, President, and James Tufts, Secretary of the Council; and George M. Pinney, Speaker, and J.R. Hanson, Chief Clerk of the House. A creditable code of laws for the Territory was enacted, the capital located by law at Yankton, and the Pembina settlement given a representation of three legislators. The contest over the location of the capital grew so threatening that the Governor ordered a squad of armed United States soldiers into the House to prevent violence to Speaker Pinney. The next day Pinney resigned, and J.L. Tiernon was chosen Speaker. The Legislature adjourned May 15, 1862, having been in session sixty days.

During the winter of 1861-62, in the midst of the Rebellion, the Secretary of War authorized the enlistment of Company A, Dakota Cavalry, which organization, consisting of ninety-six men, was mustered into the United States service, April 19, 1862, with Nelson Miner as captain; and in the following winter, Company B, Dakota Cavalry, consisting of eighty-eight men, was mustered into the United States service, with William Tripp as captain.

In March, 1862, during the breaking up of the Missouri River, that great stream became gorged with ice below the mouth of the Dakota River,



and the waters were thrown over the banks, covering nearly the whole valley for sixty miles to Sioux City. The settlers were driven from their homes by the floods, and were obliged to flee to the high lands, with their families and their herds, for safety. The preceding winter had been one of terrible storms and drifting snows, causing much suffering in the poorly constructed houses of the pioneers, and in some cases death from freezing; while the great prairie fires of the previous autumn had brought much disaster to property and danger to life. The season of 1862 following, however, proved to be one of comparative prosperity to the husbandman; the harvests were bountiful, immigration increased, and towns and villages sprang to view along the wooded streams.

The second general election was held September 1st, 1862.--Gov. Jayne and General Todd were opposing candidates for Congress. Politics were discarded, and they entered the field as Union candidates, accompanied by two corresponding tickets for territorial offices and members of the Legislature. Eight hundred and sixty-seven votes were polled in the Territory, of which Jayne received four hundred and eight and Todd three hundred and seventy-five. Todd contested the seat of Jayne before the United States House of Representatives, and was awarded the seat as Delegate in that body, upon a basis of three hundred and forty-five votes for Todd, and two hundred and forty-six for Jayne.

On the 30th day of August, 1862, the inhabitants were startled by the alarming news that the Sioux Indians of the adjoining state of Minnesota had broken out in bloody war against the whites, and that several hundred defenceless men, women and children had been savagely murdered in their homes. This fearful tale of slaughter, coupled with the report that the revengeful army of red men, reeking with innocent blood, was moving westward to attack the weak and defenceless settlements of Dakota, could not but cast terror and tears around the hearthstone of many a home in the territory. Here these people had planted their humble abodes in the Wild West, and with scanty means, but with industry and frugality, they were perfecting, day by day, their little homes of peace and comfort.

The Governor immediately issued a proclamation, calling into armed service all citizens of the Territory subject to military duty, to protect

the frontier homes and families against the expected attack. Some four hundred citizens of the Territory responded to the Governor's proclamation, left their fields and work-shops, and formed themselves into hastily organized military companies, furnishing their own fire-arms, subsistence and clothing. Fortifications were speedily thrown up in the principal towns, and all the farming settlements on the Missouri slope were quickly abandoned, for safety, while others took refuge in the stockades at the towns, to unite with the villagers in mutual protection. Two citizens of Sioux Falls were murdered near the village; one citizen was murdered and others wounded at the Dakota River ferry, within three miles of the capital; the United States mail carrier between Sioux Falls and Yankton was waylaid and robbed; a stage driver on the public highway, near Choteau Creek, was shot dead; and between Vermillion and Yankton a skirmishing war-party for a time prevented travel upon the stage-road. At Yankton all the inhabitants of the surrounding country had assembled for defence within the barracks of the town. Within these rude walls the citizens remained under arms day and night, until United States troops began to arrive, and the Indians had retreated from the embargoed settlements. The farmers then ventured back to their damaged harvests and scattered herds. Company A, Captain Miner, and Company B, Captain Tripp, were stationed for the winter among the settlements.

The second session of the Territorial Legislature commenced on the 1st of December. The lower House was in session seventeen days before a permanent organization could be effected, the Governor withholding his message meanwhile. The Council organized permanently on the first day of the session, by the selection of Enos Stutsman, President, and James Tufts, Secretary. The House formed a temporary organization by the election of A. J. Harlan, Speaker, and B. M. Smith, Chief Clerk. Ten days were consumed over contested seats, when, upon the ground of an objectionable decision by the Speaker, six members withdrew from the House, leaving that body without a quorum. The six members returned on the sixteenth day of the session, and the House was permanently organized by the election of M. K. Armstrong, Speaker, and Robert Hagaman, Chief Clerk. The following day the Governor's message was received, and the session proceeded in harmony.

During the summer of 1862, the first discovery of gold had been made in Western Dakota, on the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains, within the

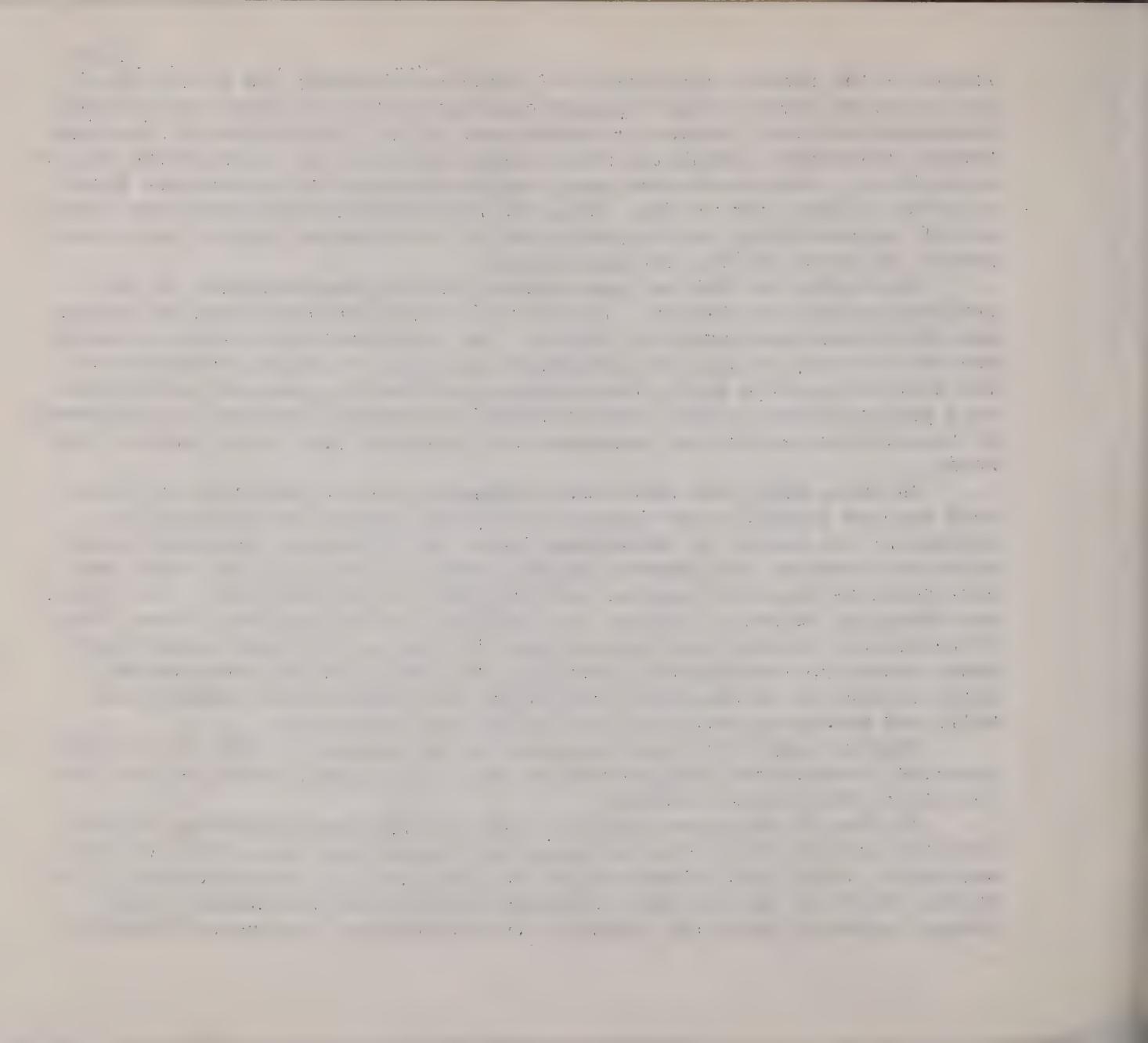
limits of the present Territories of Idaho and Montana; and on the 3d of the following March, 1863, Congress constructed the new Territory of Idaho, comprising all that portion of Dakota west of the 27th degree of longitude, passing northward through the Black Hills, and near the mouth of the Yellowstone River. Over twelve thousand people emigrated to the mountain mines of Idaho in 1863, and in May, 1864, the new Territory of Montana was framed out of Eastern Idaho, with a population of ten thousand people, and a yearly product of seven million dollars in gold.

The spring of 1863 had opened with discouraging prospects to the settlers in Southern Dakota. The fear of a long and disastrous Indian war was still prevalent among the people. The settlements were again unguarded and defenceless; no military protection was afforded by the commander of the district until a daring murder was committed by a war-party of Indians on a public highway within three miles of the capitol, and whole settlements of industrious farmers had abandoned the Territory with their families and herds.

In June, 1863, the Government dispatched to the Territory two thousand mounted troops, under General Sully, who pursued and punished the Indians at the battle of Whitestone Hills, and afterwards returned to garrison the frontier settlements for the winter. Fort Sully was built and garrisoned as the most frontier military post in the Territory. The Santee and Winnebago tribes of Indians were removed, during the same season, from Minnesota and located upon reservations in Dakota. Eighteen large steam-boats passed up the Missouri River into the Territory the same season, being engaged in transporting freight for the soldiers and Indians, and mills and machinery for the mines in the Rocky Mountains.

Dakota's population was augmented in the spring of 1864, by a colony from the State of New York, headed by Hon. J. S. Foster, nearly all of whom located in the Missouri Valley.

In June of this year, General Sully led his second military expedition through the Territory, to punish the tribes which were still on the war-path. One of his steamers made the first trip up the Yellowstone River to near mouth of the Big Horn, carrying supplies for the troops. His command numbered about two thousand five hundred men, and notwithstanding



detachments of troops were left in his rear to protect the settlements, the United States mail stage was attacked and a murder committed almost within signal-shot of a garrison. A whole family of innocent and defenceless children were horribly butchered by the Indians at St. Helena, twelve miles below Yankton. The season of 1864 was a sad one for the settlements. Not only did lurking Indians hang upon the border for robbery and rapine, but unremmitting drouth and clouds of grasshoppers swept the bloom from the fields and verdure from the plains, and with the approach of autumn, the despondent farmers repaired with their teams to the neighboring States, to bring in supplies upon which to subsist until another harvest-time. The prospects for the future were indeed gloomy, and many of the earliest settlers abandoned the Territory for the purpose of making homes elsewhere.

On the 11th of October occurred the third Congressional Election, wherein W.A. Burleigh and J.B.S. Todd were opposing candidates for Delegate, running substantially upon the same political platform. But little interest was manifested, and a small vote was polled. Indians, grasshoppers and continued misfortunes had abated the political and agricultural ardor of a despondent people. Six hundred and seven votes were polled, of which Burleigh received three hundred and eighty-six and Todd two hundred and twenty-two. Burleigh was therefor duly declared by the canvassers to be elected as the third Delegate in Congress. The annual message of Governor Edmunds to the Legislature, in December, recited in full the misfortunes and losses of the past year, but predicted a more encouraging future.

The spring of 1865 gave promise of a prosperous future to the Territory. Eighty-five thousand dollars had been appropriated by Congress for the opening of wagon roads through the Territory to the Rocky Mountain gold mines. Col. James A. Sawyers was appointed Superintendent to construct the road from Niobrara to Virginia City, with \$50,000; Col. G.C. Moody was assigned to the road from Sioux City up the Missouri Valley to the Great Cheyenne, with \$25,000; and W.W. Brookings, with \$30,000, was selected to construct a road across Dakota from the Minnesota line, out to Cheyenne, to intersect with the Sawyers route, west of the Black Hills. The first permanent bridges were built over the Big Sioux, Vermillion and Dakota Rivers.

In June, Gen. Sully led his third expedition up the Missouri Valley into the Indian country, and with the exception of the Brule Creek Massacre

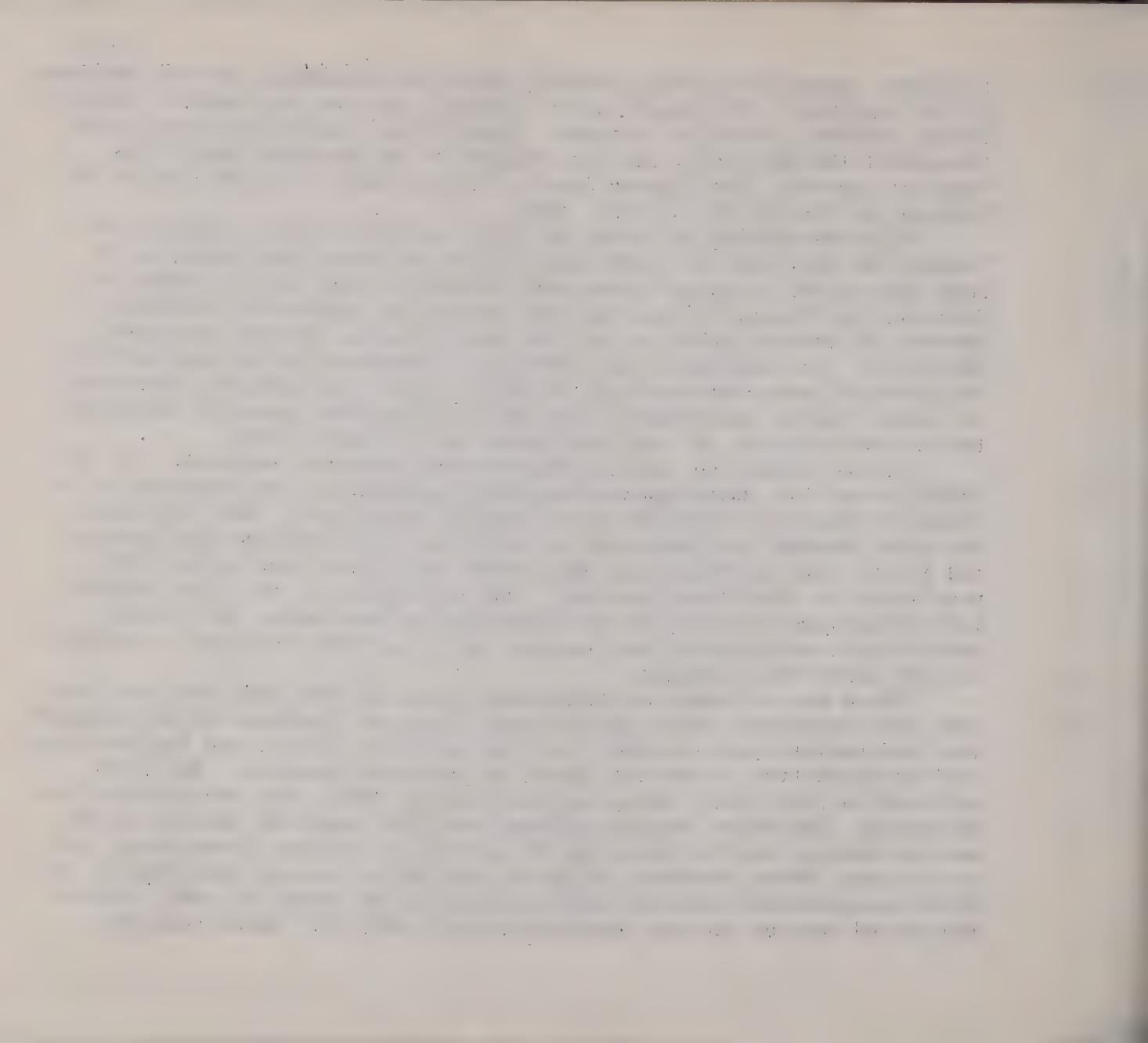


in August, peace and safety generally prevailed throughout settled portions of the Territory. The season was a favorable one for the farmers, and the fields yielded a bountiful harvest. Schools were numerously established throughout the Territory, and the erection of an Episcopal church was begun at Yankton. The Supreme Court of Dakota held its first session at Yankton, on the 6th day of July, 1865.

With the opening of spring in 1866, the three years' war with the Indians was declared at an end, and a Board of Peace Commissioners, to form treaties of perpetual peace and friendship with the wild tribes of Sioux on the Missouri River, was sent out by the Government, Governor Edmunds, of Dakota, being one of the Commissioners, and M.K. Armstrong, Secretary. The Commission left Yankton by steamboat in May, and ascended the Missouri above the mouth of the Yellowstone, into Montana, returning in August, having spent nearly four months in holding councils and making treaties with nearly all the wild tribes on the upper river.

In the autumn the regular Congressional election occurred. Dr. W.A. Burleigh and W.W. Brookings were opposing candidates. Burleigh ran on the "Johnson" platform--Brookings as a straight Republican. The total vote was eight hundred and forty-six, of which Burleigh received five hundred and ninety-two, and Brookings two hundred and fifty-four, indicating a population of about five thousand. The previous year, the first assessment of personal property in the Territory had been made, the returns exhibiting a valuation of one hundred and fifty-eight thousand, nine hundred and sixty-three dollars.

There was a steady and increasing growth in 1867 and 1868; new counties were organized, towns and villages increased, immigration was renewed, the land surveys were extended into the Red River Valley, and the Territory, for the first time, began its career of permanent progress. The first railroad to Sioux City, Iowa, was completed in 1868, near the eastern line of Dakota. The Union Pacific railroad was also completed through Southwestern Dakota, and the territory of Wyoming was created therefrom by act of Congress. Prior, however, to the separation of Wyoming from Dakota, the fifth congressional election had been held in the autumn of 1868, whereat the united vote of the two Territories was 4,681; S.S. Spink received



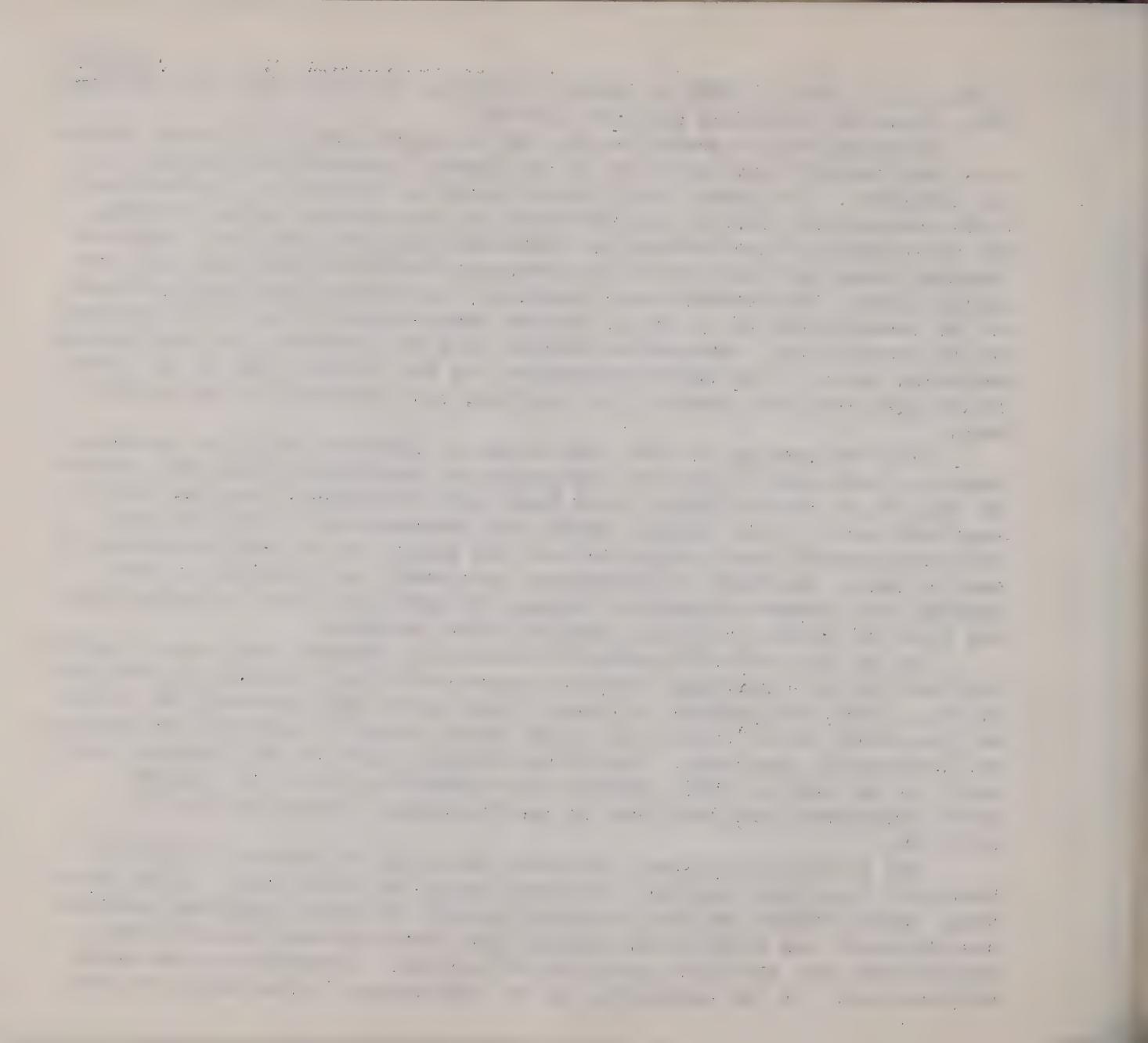
1,424; J.B.S. Todd, 1,089; M. Toohey, 878; W.A. Burleigh, 697; J.P. Kidder, 591. Spink was therefore declared elected.

Governor Faulk's annual message to the Legislature that winter revealed a very satisfactory condition of the growth, prospects and finances of the territory. The great Sioux Indian Treaty had been made, and the Black Hills country set apart as a reservation for the various tribes of Sioux. The white population of Dakota had increased forty-two per cent. Over one thousand farms had been located by immigrants under the homestead and pre-emption laws. The harvests were bountiful, and found ready sale by reason of the constant demand to supply the new Indian agencies and military posts on the upper river. Immigration pressed into the territory as never before, selecting homes in the southern counties, on the streams, and at the close of the year the population of the territory was estimated at twelve thousand.

With the opening of 1869, the stream of immigration to the southern counties continued to pour in; navigation on the Missouri River far exceeded that of any former season; many large and substantial blocks of buildings were built in the various towns, and handsome church edifices and commodious school houses began to take the places of the rude structures of earlier days. Merchants and mechanics prospered, and the farmers were favored with abundant harvests, although in some localities the great prairie fires of autumn laid waste much valuable property.

During 1869 and 1870 several unsuccessful attempts were made to secure the building of a railroad along the Missouri Valley, through the counties of Clay, Union and Yankton, a line of road having been surveyed and a mile or two graded to Elk Point; but no aid being given by congress, the project was temporarily abandoned. The first telegraph line in the Territory was built in the fall of 1870, leading from Sioux City, Iowa, to Yankton. Seven newspapers were published in the Territory, each Republican in politics.

The fifth congressional election took place in October, 1870, W.A. Burleigh, S.L. Spink and M.K. Armstrong being the candidates. Three thousand, three hundred and two votes were polled, of which Armstrong received one thousand, one hundred and ninety-eight, Burleigh one thousand, one hundred and two, and Spink one thousand and two. Armstrong was declared duly elected. At the assembling of the legislature in December, the mes-



sage of Governor Burbank pronounced the Territory on the high road to prosperity. The national census of 1870 showed the population of Dakota to be fourteen thousand, one hundred and eighty.

The succeeding two years were marked by continued prosperity and renewed activity in the matter of railroad building. Over two hundred miles of railroad were built in Dakota in 1872. In October of the same year occurred the sixth congressional election. G.C. Moody, W.W. Brookings and M.K. Armstrong were the candidates. The total vote of the Territory was forty-five hundred and ninety-nine, indicating a population of about twenty-three thousand people. Armstrong received two thousand and three, Moody fifteen hundred and ninety four, and Brookings one thousand and two. Mr. Armstrong was declared elected.

The year 1873 opened with most encouraging prospects. The railroad to the capital had been completed, and with spring navigation the government freights for the upper military posts and Indian agencies were shipped by rail to Yankton, and there transferred to steamboats to be transported up the river. The season propitious to the husbandman and the yield of wheat and other grains was so large that for the first time in the history of the Territory, considerable shipments were made to eastern markets. During 1873 and 1874 grain raising was established as the principle feature of farming in Dakota, and additional flouring mills were erected in different parts of the Territory. The new forest culture law of Congress had done much toward settling up the prairie countries, while the recent discovery of gold in the Black Hills by General Custer's army had attracted large numbers of miners to Western Dakota. With the gathering of the harvests of 1874, it was demonstrated that the soil and climate of Dakota, rendered it one of the finest wheat-growing regions of the whole West, and the grain was eagerly sought by eastern buyers.

In October came the seventh congressional election in the Territory. Judge J.P. Kidder and M.K. Armstrong were the candidates. Nine thousand, five hundred and eighteen votes were returned, indicating a total population of nearly fifty thousand.--The certificate was awarded to Kidder.

(Copied from pages 9-28 in History of Southeastern Dakota Its Settlement and Growth..., 1881.)

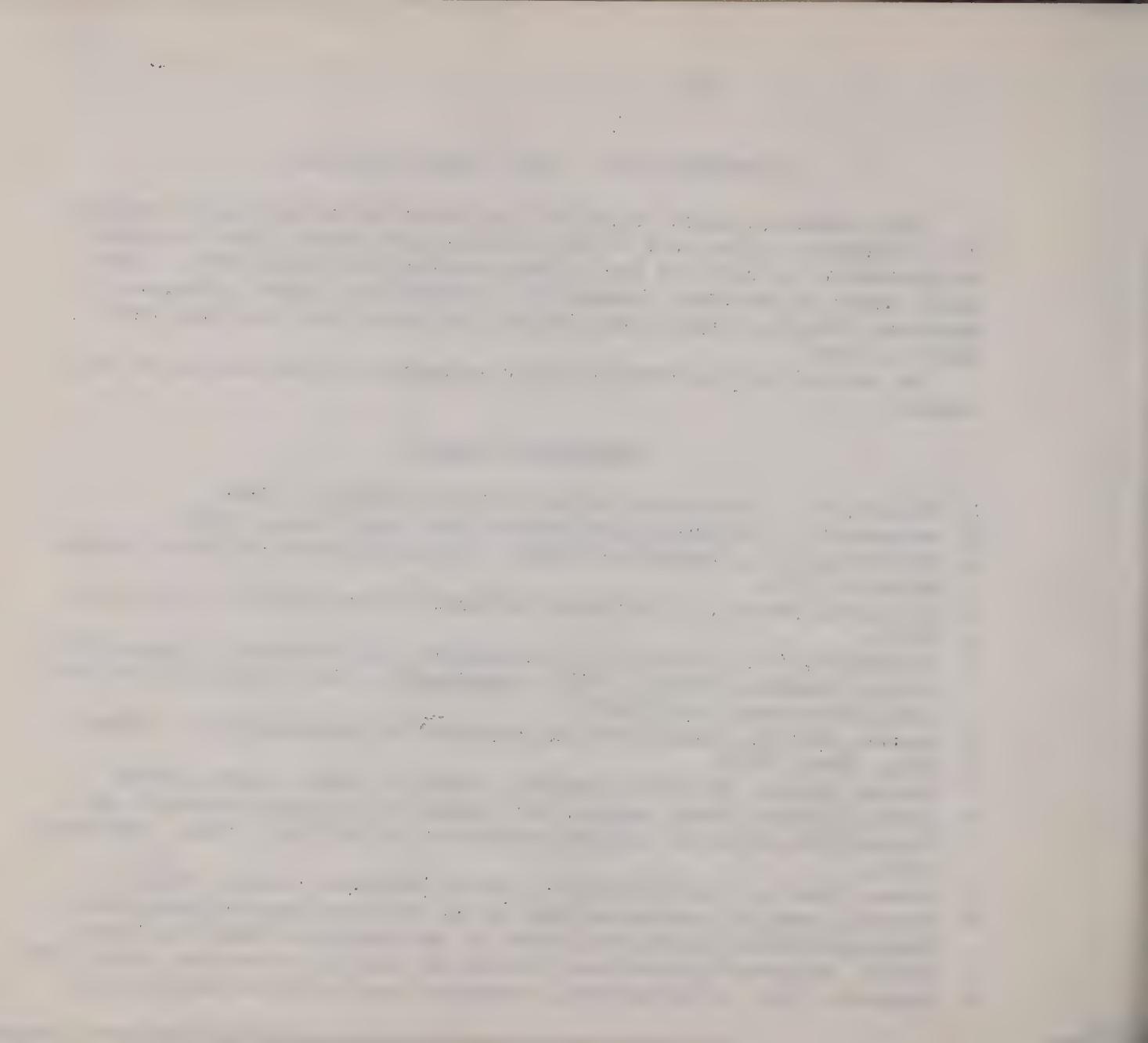
REFERENCES FOR SOUTH DAKOTA HISTORY

The references which follow are for South Dakota in general and for the southeastern older part of the state in particular. The list does not pretend to be complete but it does include most to be found - especially those at the State University at Vermillion, State College at Brookings, the State Historical Society at Pierre, and the Sioux Falls Public Library.

At the end will be found specific references to the history of the county.

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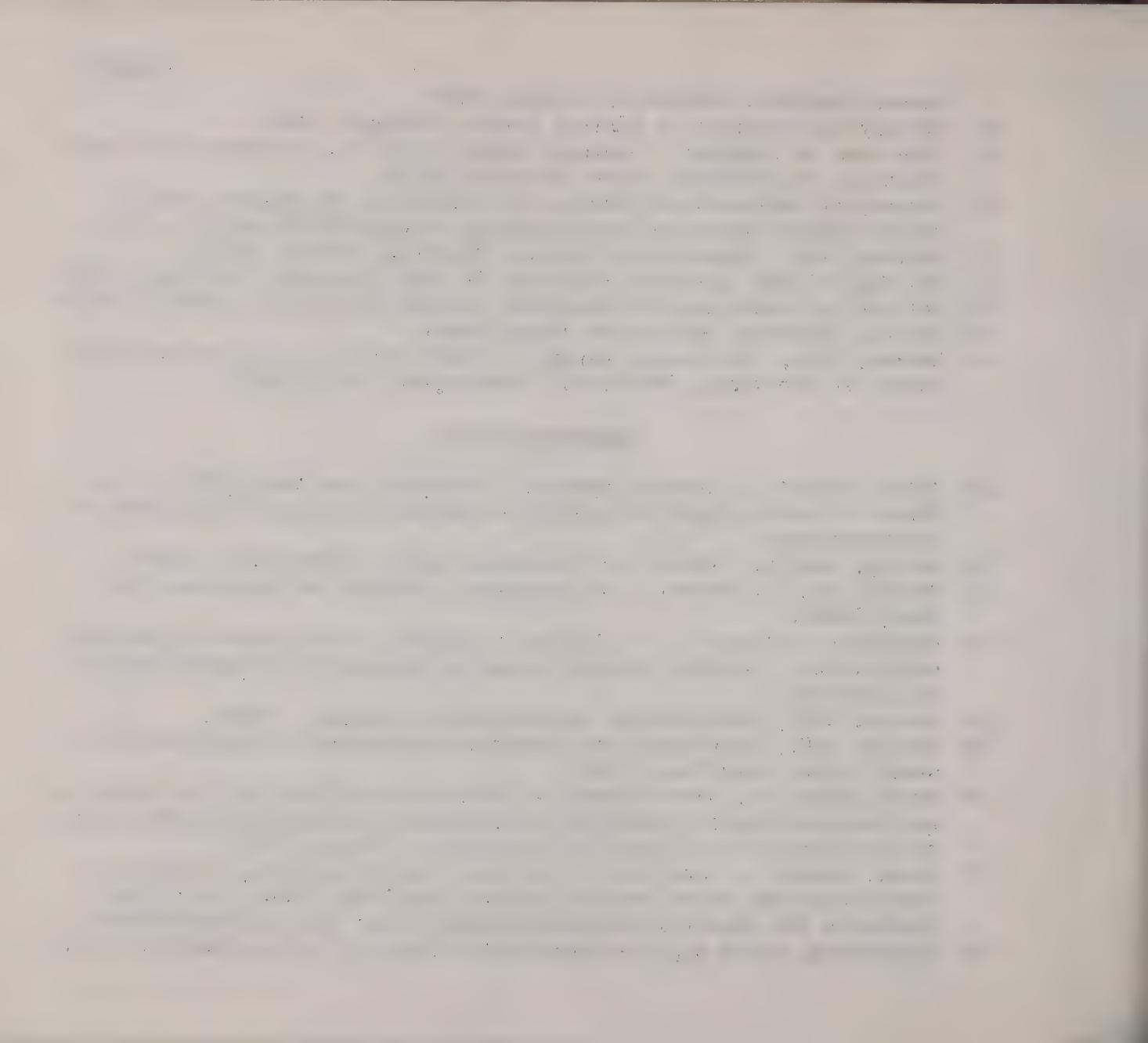
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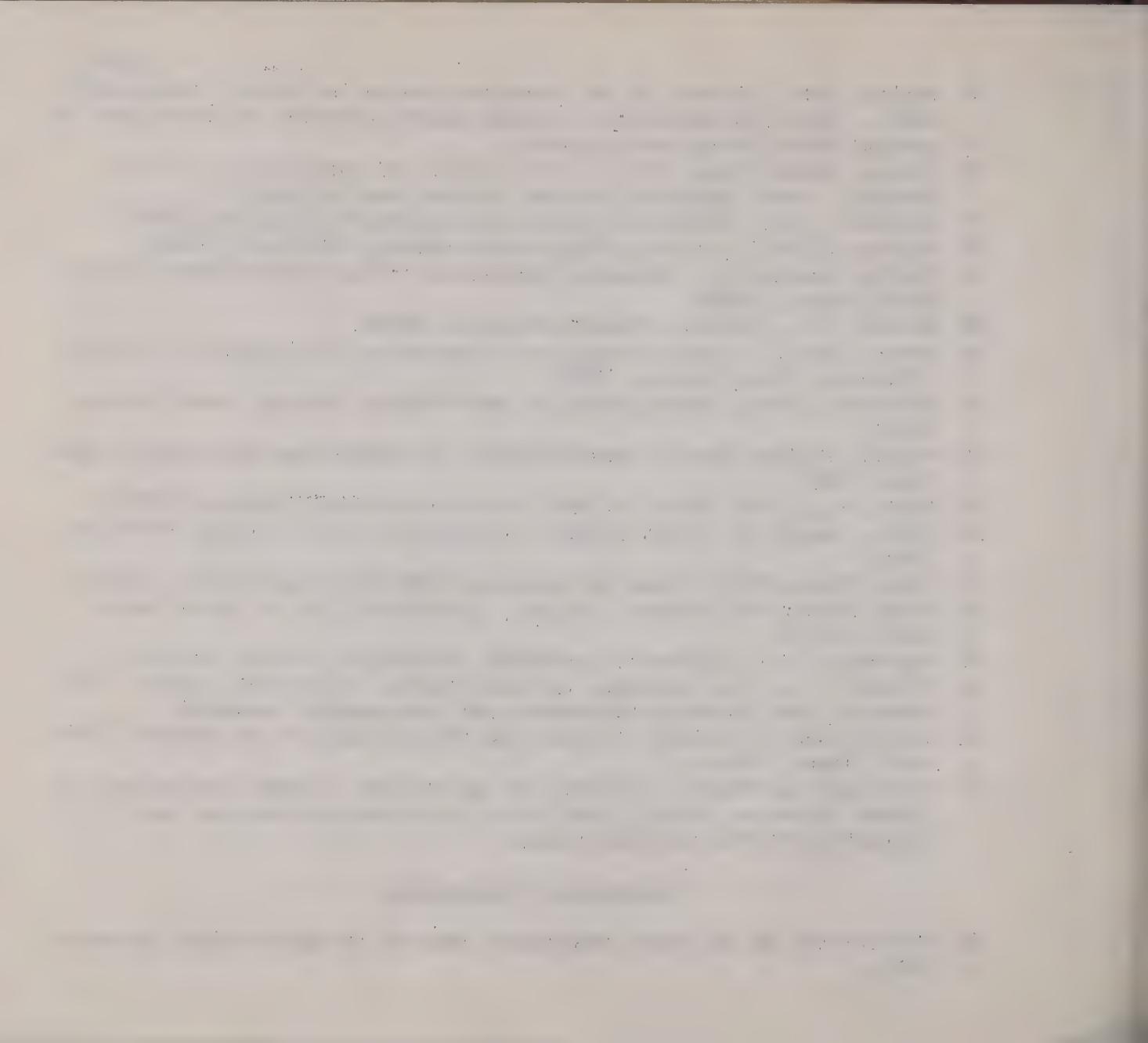
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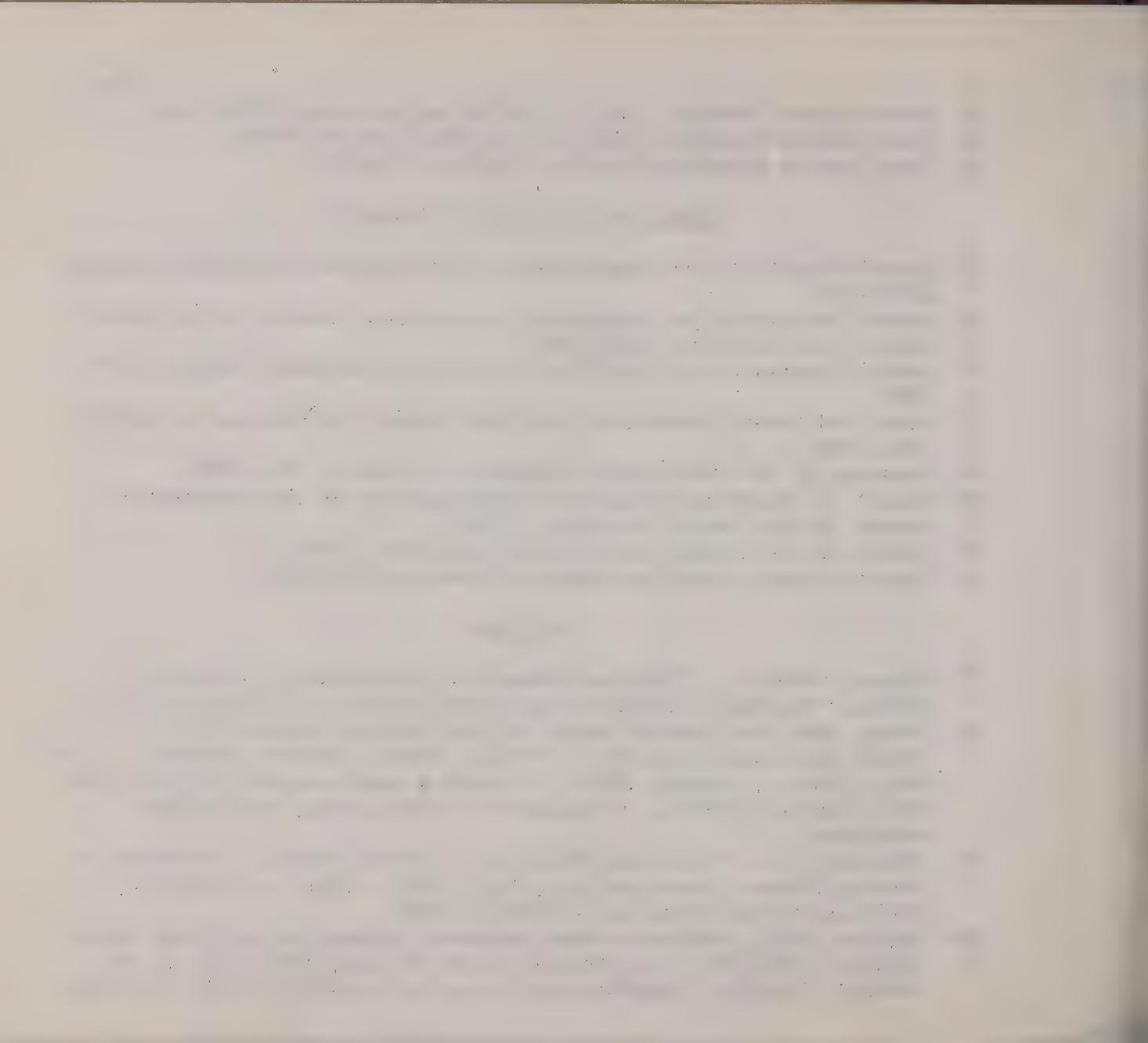
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193-198, 231-235, 311-315, 345-347, 376-381, 412-414. This is the best account of military operations in southeastern South Dakota, 1862-1865.

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Biographical Sketches

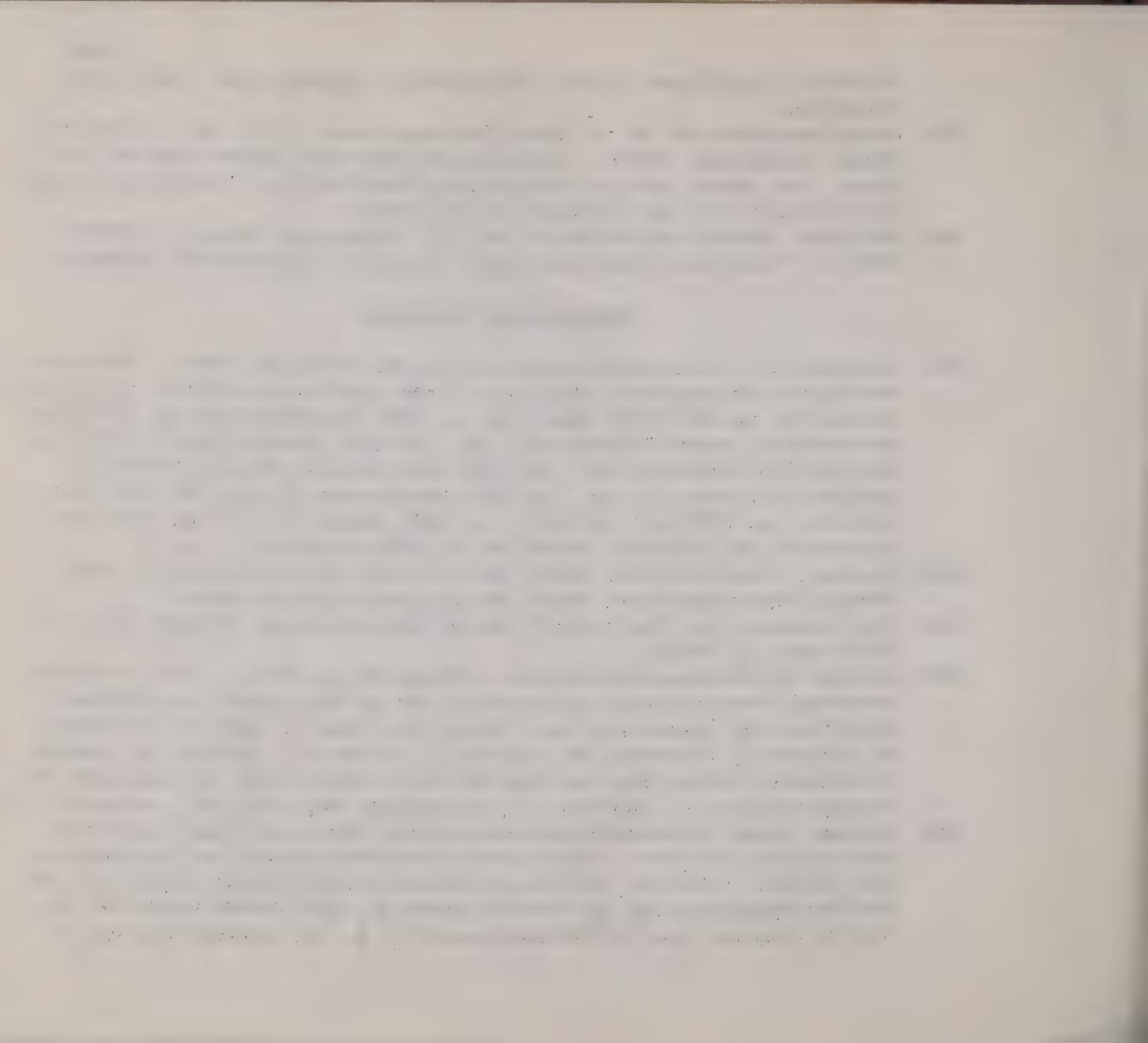
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71; Lincoln 14, pp. 73-76; Minnehaha 84, pp. 25-41; Union 20, pp. 77-81; Yankton 38, pp. 81-91; and a few others at Madison, Milbank, Pierre, and in the Black Hills.

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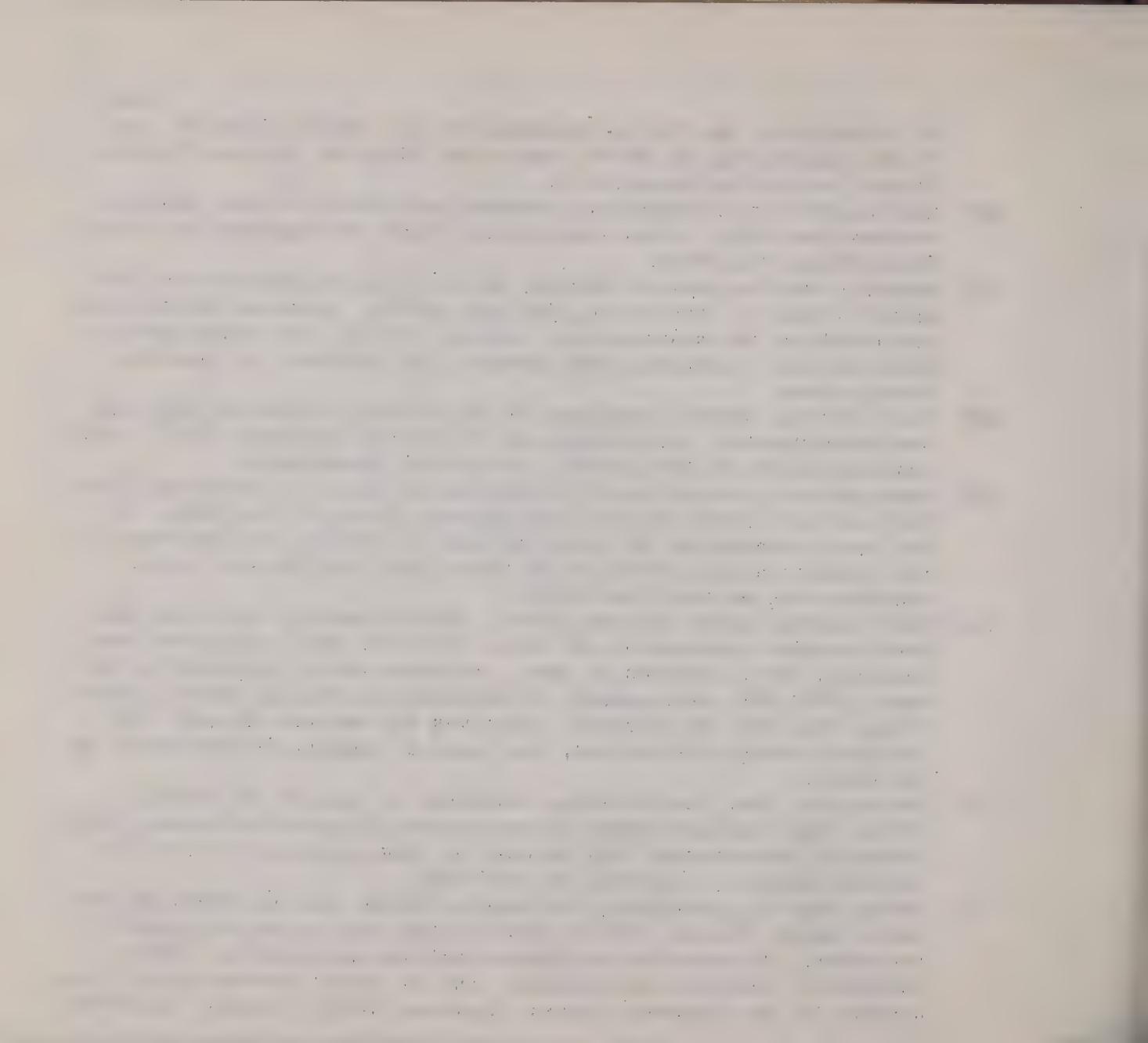
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Chamberlain, Custer, Deadwood, Gregory, Hot Springs, Huron, Lead, Lemmon, Madison, Martin, Mitchell, Mobridge, Pierre, Rapid City, Sioux Falls, Spearfish, Sturgis, Vermillion, Watertown, Winner, and Yankton. Very short histories of two to ten lines are given for each county.

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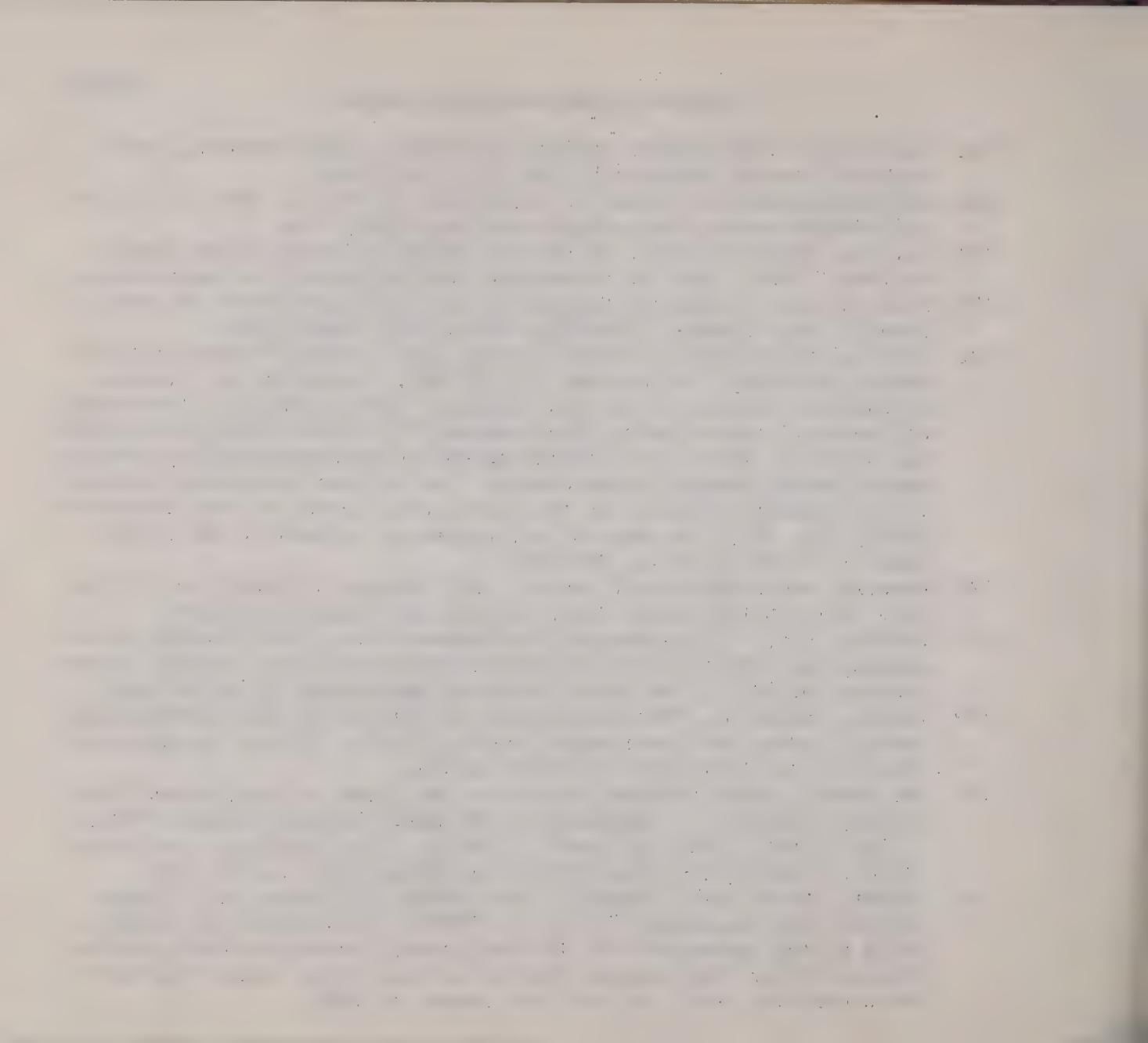
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4 5 8 10 13 16 19 20 23 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 34 35 39 40 41 42 44 45 46
47 48 49 52 53 55 56 58 59 61 62 64 65 66 67 68 69 73 74 75 77 78 80 82 83
84 86 87 88 89 93 96 97 98 100 101 102 103 104 106 107 108 109 110 111 112
113 114 115 116 117 119 120 121.

Chronology

1492 Spain claimed all the new world when Columbus discovered America.

1671 France began to claim South Dakota and its adjacent region.

1679 Daniel G. Duluth may have visited northeastern South Dakota.

1743 The Verendrye party buried a lead plate near Fort Pierre.

1780 About this date the Yankton and Yanktonais Sioux arrived.

1785 Pierre Dorion was the first white man to settle near Yankton.

1800 About this date Robert Dickson began to trade at Lake Traverse.

1803 The Louisiana Purchase area was bought by the United States.

1804 Lewis and Clark passed up the Missouri River, returning in 1806.

1807 Manuel Lisa traded on the Missouri River from 1807 to 1820.

1812 Some Yanktonais Sioux helped the British in the War of 1812.

1813 Fort Manuel, built in 1812 near North Dakota line, was destroyed.



1817 LaFramboise began at Fort Pierre the first continuous settlement.

1831 The first steamboat, the Yellowstone, reached Pierre area.

1833 Nicollet and Fremont visited eastern South Dakota; again in 1839.

1840 Missionaries Riggs, DeSmet, and Hoecken visited Fort Pierre.

1851 The eastern edge of South Dakota was bought at Traverse des Sioux.

1857 Settlements were begun at Medary, Flandreau, and Sioux Falls.

1857 Nobles Trail was built across eastern central South Dakota.

1857 Fort Randall was completed and was occupied by troops until 1884.

1858 Yanktons relinquished land between Big Sioux and Missouri.

1858 A provisional territorial government was organized at Sioux Falls.

1859 The towns of Yankton, Vermillion, and Bon Homme were begun.

1861 On March 2 Dakota Territory was created; Dr. Jayne, governor.

1868 Great Sioux Reservation created following Red Cloud War.

1872 First railroad arrived at Yankton; 1873 at Lake Kampeska.

1874 Gold was discovered in Black Hills by Custer expedition.

1877 Great Dakota Boom of settlement began, lasting a decade.

1879 Much railroad building began in the East River country.

1880 Great October blizzard, followed by a hard winter and floods.

1881 Colleges began: Yankton, 1881; University, 1882; State, 1883.

1883 Territorial capital removed from Yankton to Bismarck, N.D.

1886 First railroad reached the Black Hills bringing new activity.

1889 On November 2, South Dakota and North Dakota were admitted.

1890 Year of Messiah War, battle of Wounded Knee; Sitting Bull killed.

1890 Part of Great Sioux Reservation opened; Sisseton, in 1892.

1896 Long period of prosperity began, following hard times.

1898 Spanish-American War; First South Dakota Infantry to Manila.

1904 Pierre won over rivals for site of the state capital.

1904 Part of Rosebud Reservation was opened for homeseekers.

1917 America entered World War I which ended Nov. 11, 1918.

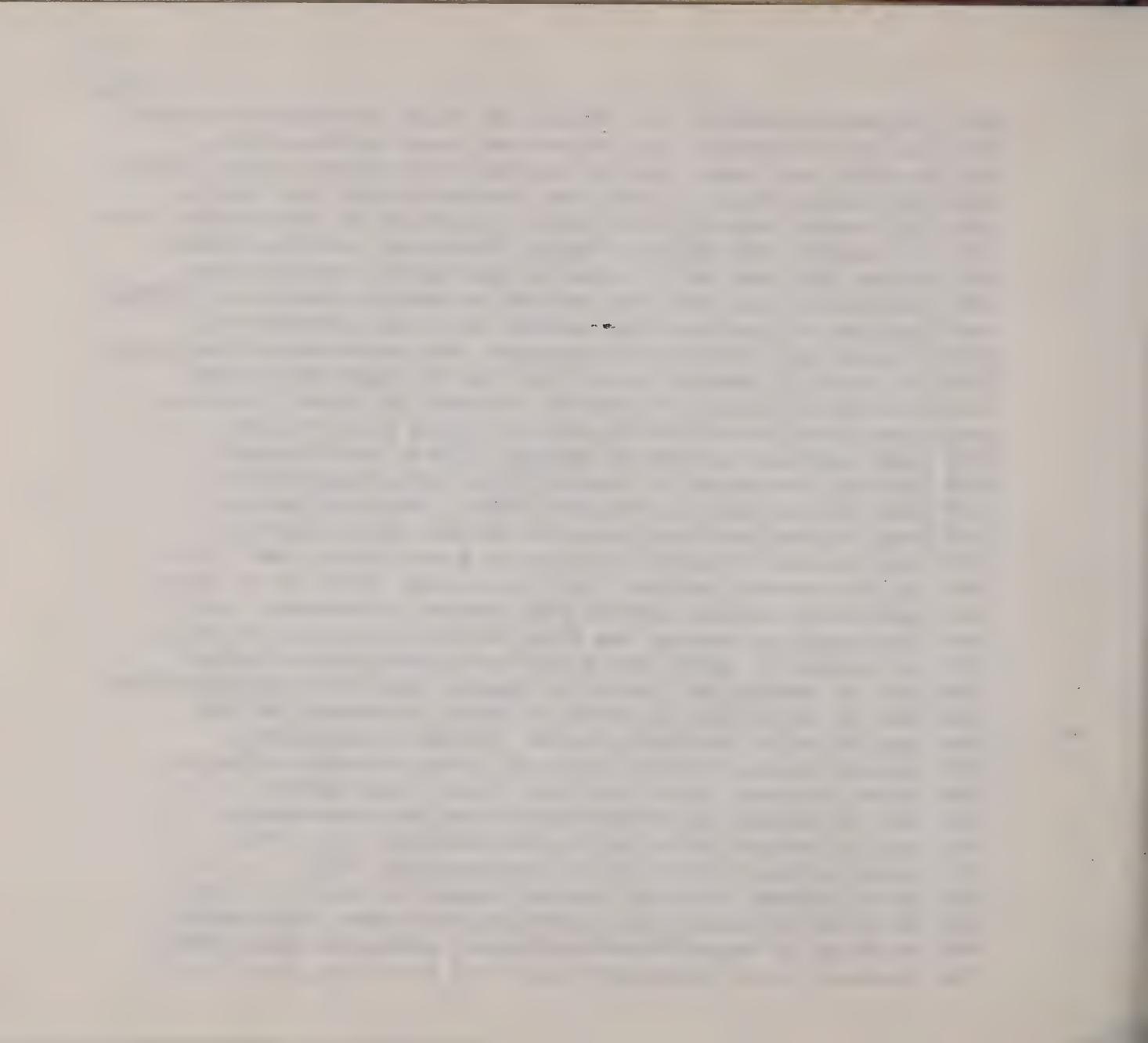
1919 Era of bridge building began, lasting until 1926.

1925 Mount Rushmore National Monument began, continuing to 1941.

1929 The Great Depression began bringing hard times for a decade.

1941 World War II began for United States, ending in August 1945.

1946 Missouri River Development began with first dam, Fort Randall.



COURSE OF STUDY FOR ELEMENTARY GRADES
HISTORY UNITS VII & VIII FOR GRADE VI

The following references will be found useful in teaching these two units, each of six weeks' duration. Citation of references and pages is made by using the author's surname or as otherwise indicated below.

| | |
|-----------|--|
| Barker | Barker, Matilda Tarleton. Our State (1956). |
| Guide | Federal Writers' Project, WPA. A South Dakota Guide (1938). |
| Hunkins | Hunkins, Ralph V. and Lindsey, John Clark. South Dakota - Its Past, Present, and Future (1932). |
| Parker | Parker, Donald Dean. "Early Explorations and Fur Trading in South Dakota," S.D. Historical Collections, Vol. 25, 1-211. |
| Putney | Putney, Effie F. In the South Dakota Country (1922). Vols. 1-2. |
| Ransom | Ransom, Frank Leslie. The Sunshine State (1912). |
| Robinson | Robinson, Doane. A Brief History of South Dakota (1905). |
| Schell | Schell, H.S. South Dakota, Its Beginning and Growth (1942). |
| Vanderpol | Vanderpol, Jeannette A. and McCain, Lynn Poley. True Stories for Little Dakotans (1937). |
| Young | Young, Clark M. Territorial and State History (1904). (This is incorporated as a part of this book, pages 1-SD - 46-SD). |

Unit VII. From Buffalo Pasture to Statehood (six weeks).

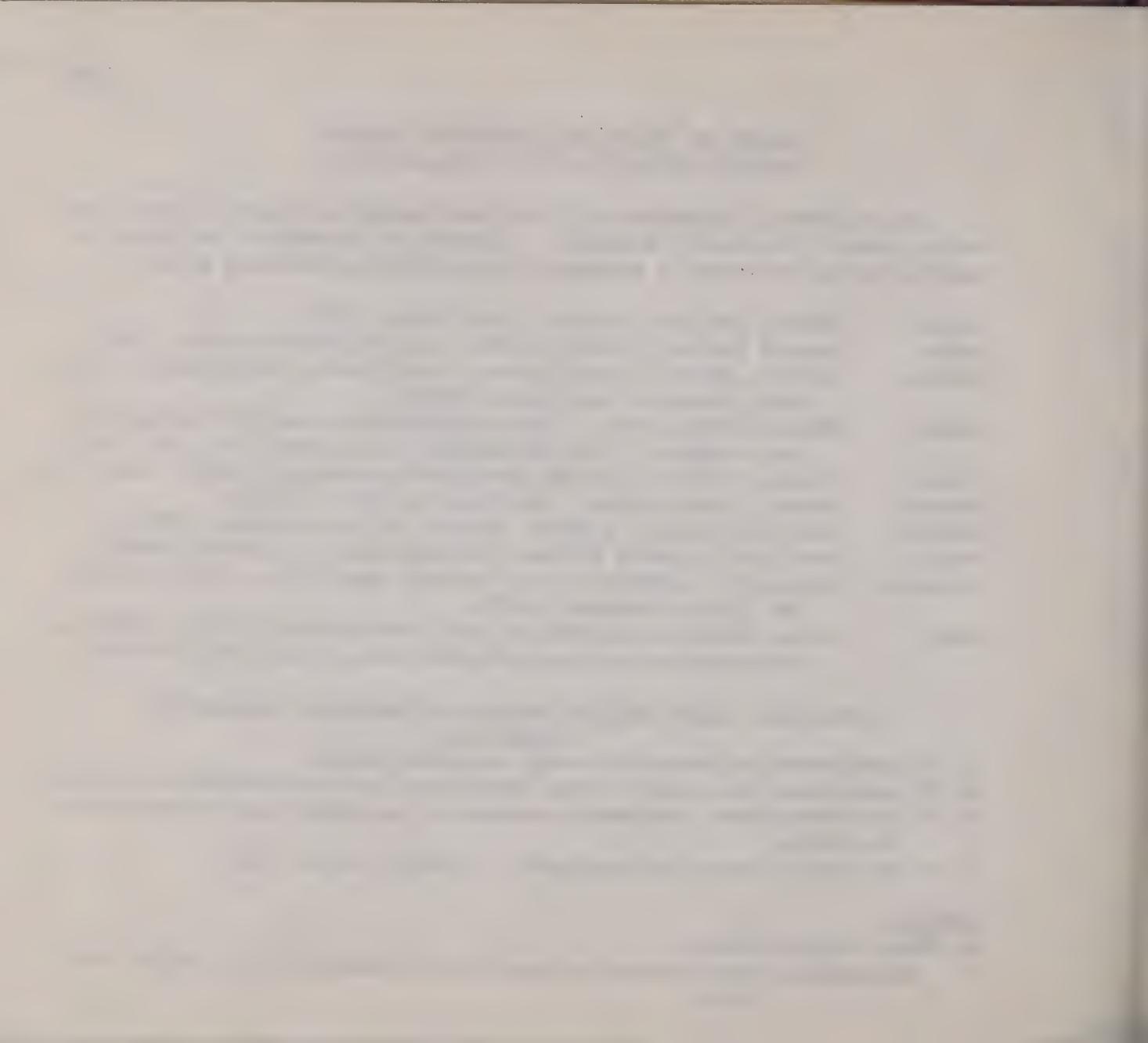
Objectives

1. To know something about the story the rocks unfold.
2. To learn about the early Indian inhabitants and their method of living.
3. To learn more about the early pioneers of the state and the sacrifices they made.
4. To be able to trace the territorial identity of the state.

Content

1. Story told by rocks.

Activities: Find pictures of prehistoric animals that lived in our state.



References: Barker, 11-29. Guide, 10-13. Hunkins, 1-25. Putney, I, chap. 1. Ransom, 5-22. Robinson, 9-16. Schell, 1-10. Vanderpol, 10-20.

Content

2. Indians of South Dakota (a) Early Indian inhabitants (b) Famous Indian inhabitants.

Activities: (a) Debate - Resolved that the Indians were not treated fairly. (b) Play "Come, Come" with the names in sections 2 and 3. The one guessing the right name then becomes it and says, "Come, Come." The others then say, "Where do you come from?" and the one who is it describes the person.

References: Barker, 31-72. Guide, 17-28. Hunkins, 37-48. Putney, I, 17-30. Ransom, 23-27. Robinson, 14-21. Schell, 11-31. Vanderpol, 21-27. Young, 1-3, 11-12.

Content

3. Early explorers of South Dakota (a) Lewis and Clark (b) Early missionaries (c) Early noted visitors.

Activities: (a) 1. On the map trace the journey of Lewis and Clark. 2. Find five French names on the map of South Dakota.

References: Barker, 75-115. Hunkins, 48-81. Guide, 29-33, 254-256. Parker, 5-82. Putney I, II, 1-82. Ransom, 28-53. Robinson, 22-112. Schell, 35-71. Vanderpol, 27-101. Young, 5-6, 8-9.

Content

4. Territorial claims and transfers (a) Countries claiming Louisiana: England, Spain and France; (b) South Dakota as a part of Louisiana Territory.

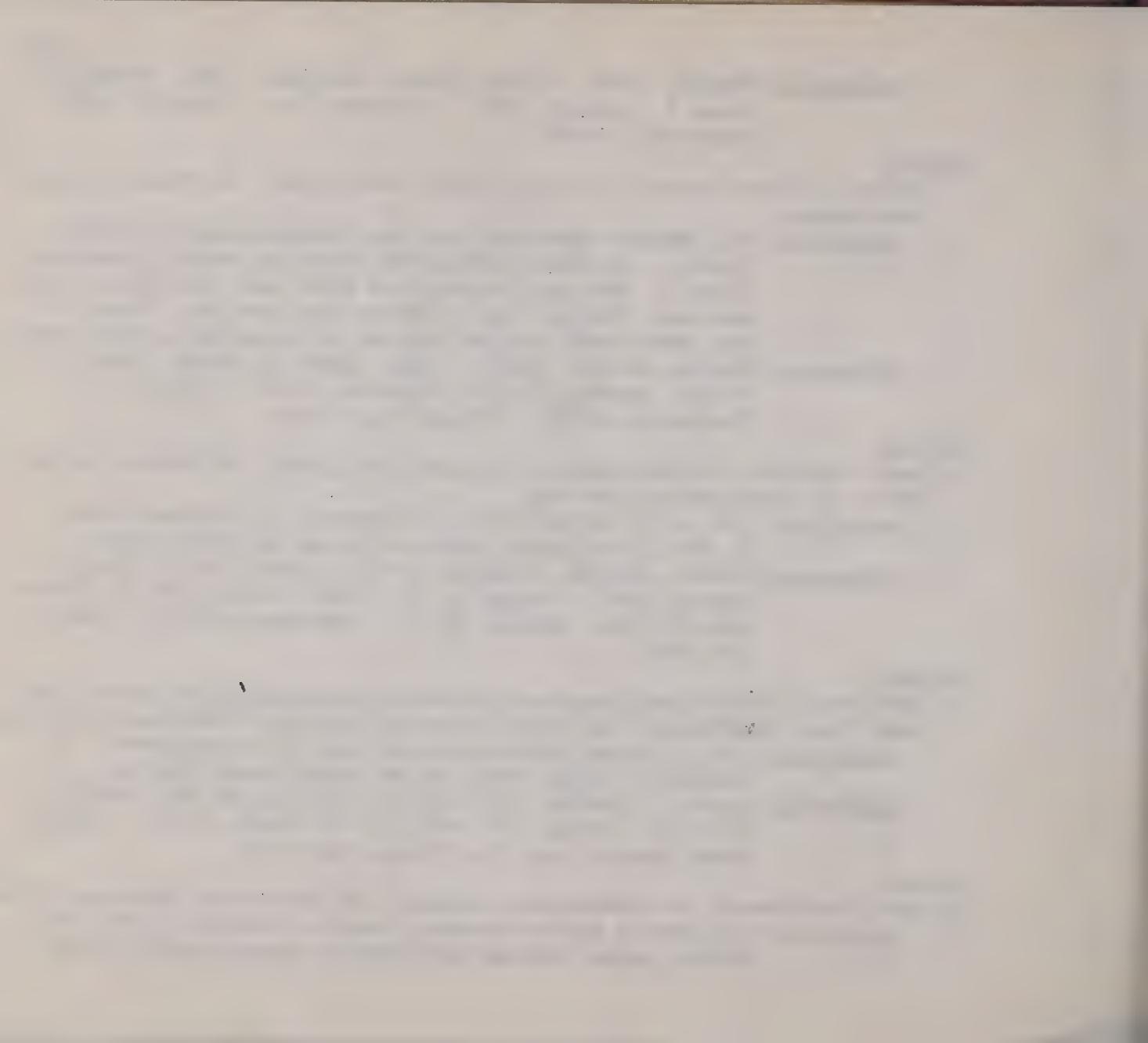
Activities: (b) 1. Figure the approximate size of South Dakota. 2. Find five Indian names on the map of South Dakota.

References: Barker, 203-205. Hunkins, 53. Ransom, 32-38. Schell, 111-113. Young, 4-5, 9-10, 24-29. Guide, 33-34. Parker, South Dakota Under Four Flags, maps 6-21.

Content

5. Early Settlements (a) Communities founded; (b) Hardships; (c) Dakota Boom.

Activities: (a) Make a list of dangers that the pioneers faced; (b) Make a poster showing why pioneers should settle in our



state; (c) Make a list of the railroads of the state.

References: Barker, 117-160. Guide, 33-39. Hunkins, 82-87. Putney, II, 35-44, 67-71. Ransom, 53-87. Robinson, 113-130. Schell, 75-106. Vanderpol, 104-145. Young, 12-22.

Content

6. Indian troubles (a) Red Cloud War; cause; terms of the treaty; (b) Other Indian troubles.

Activities: (a) Discuss the question, "Was Red Cloud really defeated?" (b) Tell the story of Custer's last stand.

References: Barker, 163-202. Guide, 35-39, 41. Hunkins, 89-102, 118-123, 110-115. Putney, I, 125-146, 156-172. Robinson, 124-249. Vanderpol, 136-158, 168-199, 209-234. Young, 19-24, 37-40.

Content

7. Early Leaders of the State (a) Political; (b) Military.

Activities: (a) Find counties or cities honoring the names of early political and military leaders. 2. See if you can find the origin of the names of the townships in your county.

References: Barker, 203-215. Guide, 39. Hunkins, 87-89, 94-130. Ransom, 77-94. Robinson, 156-172. Schell, 111-140. Vanderpol, 235-248. Young, 29-35.

Unit VIII. From Statehood to the Present Time (six weeks).

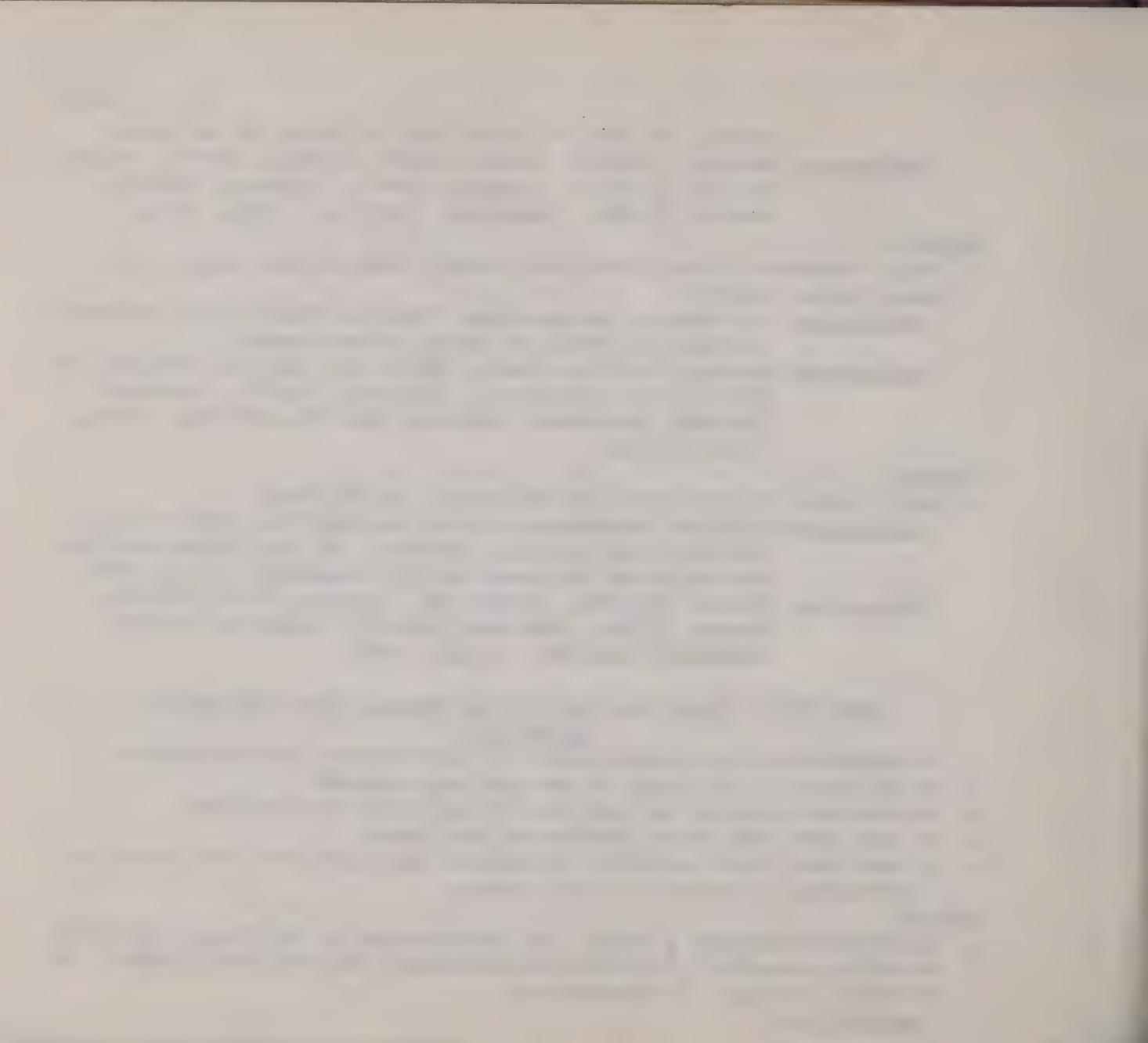
Objectives

1. To appreciate the accomplishments of South Dakota since statehood.
2. To be amused at the story of the shifting capital.
3. To know the location and purposes of our state institutions.
4. To know about the scenic wonders of the state.
5. To know about state ventures to advance the state that have failed or succeeded to accomplish that purpose.

Content

1. South Dakota becomes a state (a) Organization of the State (b) Story of shifting capital (c) State institutions (d) Political leaders (e) Political parties (f) Statistical.

Activities:



Activities: (1.b) Write a short movie act or make a frieze showing the method of locating the state capital. (c) Learn the names and locations of the state penal, charitable, and educational institutions. (d) See if you can find the names of some of the political leaders on the map. (e) Name the state representatives and senators in Washington. (f) Make a list of the five largest cities and the five largest counties; also the five most populous counties.

References: Barker, 207-233. Guide, 39-43. Hunkins, 115-118. Putney, II, 83-86. Ransom, 87-150. Robinson, 206-220. Schell, 132-193. Vanderpol, 240-258. Young, 29-37.

Content

2. Participation in Wars (a) Civil War volunteers kept at home to help guard the settlements (b) Other wars; Spanish-American; World War.

Activities: (2.b) Make a list of state heroes in the Second World War.

References: Barker, 249, 275, 276. Guide, 35, 43. Hunkins, 78-79, 89. Putney, II, 87. Ransom, 112-114, 149. Robinson, 124-125, 187-193. Schell, 295-301. Vanderpol, 136-143, 292-293. Young, 40-41.

Content

3. Scenic wonders of the State.

Activities: (3.a) Write an "ad" encouraging outsiders to spend their vacations in South Dakota. (b) Make a booklet on Scenic Wonders in our State.

References: Barker, 265-270. Guide, 7-14, 311-324. Hunkins, 294-301. Putney, II, 143-230. Schell, 329-332.

Content

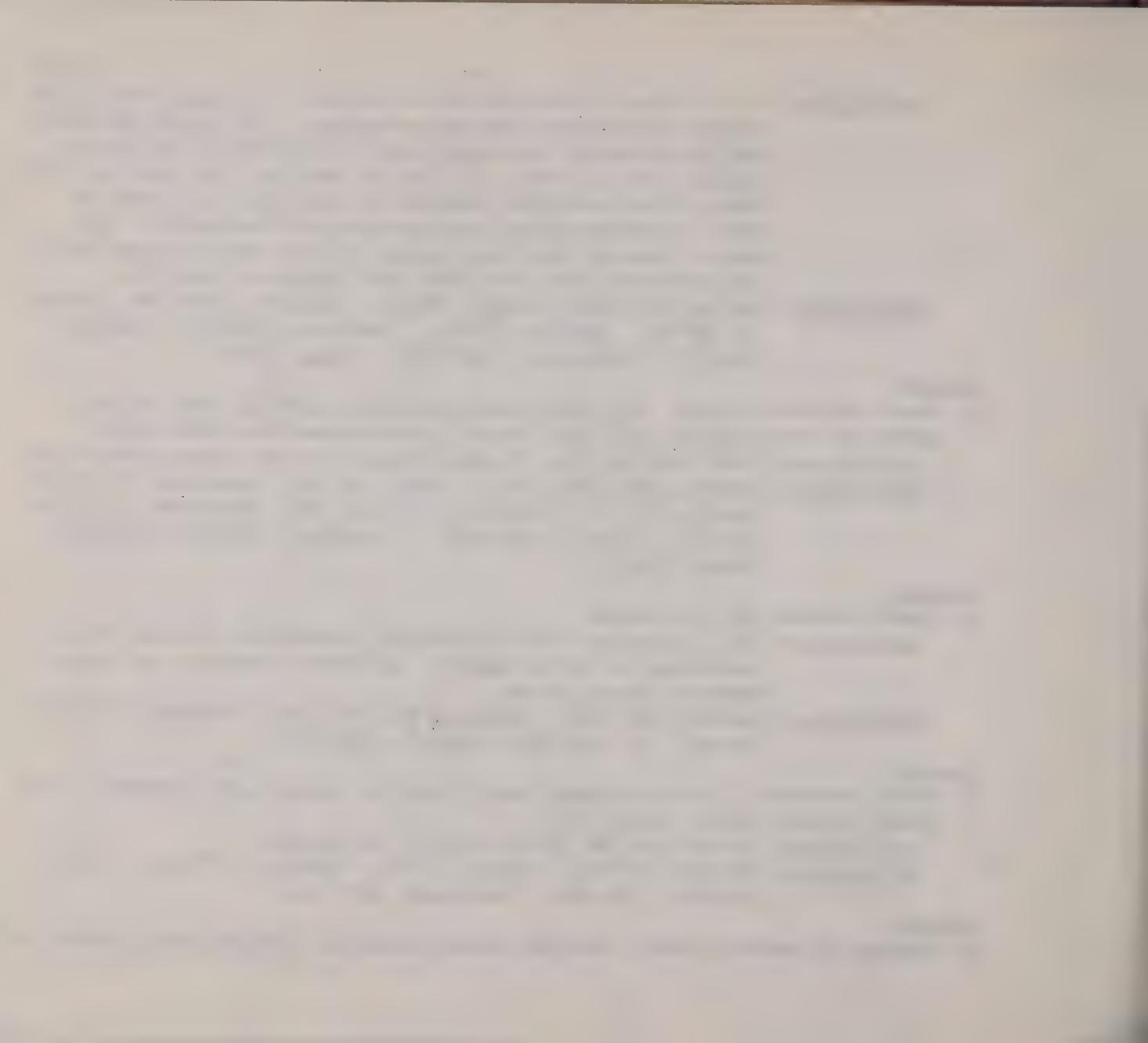
4. State ventures - State bridges, rural credits, state hail insurance, coal mines, cement plant, state fair.

Activities: (4) Locate the State bridges on the map.

References: Barker, 176-181. Guide, 43-45. Hunkins, 176-181. Schell, 253-256, 175-182. Vanderpol, 259-265.

Content

5. Indians in recent times - Messiah craze, death of Sitting Bull, Battle of



Content

Wounded Knee, opening of Indian Lands, Indian reservations today, life of Indians today.

Activities: (5.a) Tell the story of the Wounded Knee Massacre. (b) Locate the largest Indian reservations in the State.

References: Barker, 163-200. Guide, 17, 28, 41, 178-179, 233-235, 263-270, 337-338, 341-344. Hunkins, 110-121. Schell, 197-237. Vanderpol, 207-233. Young, 37-40.

Content

6. Items of Special Interest - Initiative and referendum; President Coolidge in Black Hills; prohibition; removal of Mennonites; Reconstruction Finance Corporation activities; building of lakes and dams; building public buildings and projects to relieve the depression; drought and grasshoppers, selling of rural credits land, farm mortgages, probable influence of Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Waterway; possibilities of great hydraulic dams along the Missouri; recreational facilities of the state; reforestation; gross income tax. Accomplishments of noted citizens -- Hanson; Hughitt; Beadle; Badger Clark; Doane Robinson; F.A. Spafford; Martin Charger.

Activities: (6.a) Make a list of important minerals found in the Black Hills. (b) Collect stories about the Black Blizzards and grasshoppers. (c) Find a picture of Rushmore Memorial. (d) Read some of the poems by Badger Clark.

References: Barker, 219-265, 271-275. Guide, (for Coolidge) 45, 173, 312, 316, 400; (for Mennonites) 65, 79, 283-284; (for Beadle) 39, 61; (for Clark) 298, 346; (for Robinson) 291, 311; (for Charger) 200. Hunkins, 191, 261-267, 295. Putney, 63-68. Vanderpol, 294-299.



RECOMMENDATION

When the educational system of South Dakota was examined by representatives of the U.S. Bureau of Education, they made the following statement:

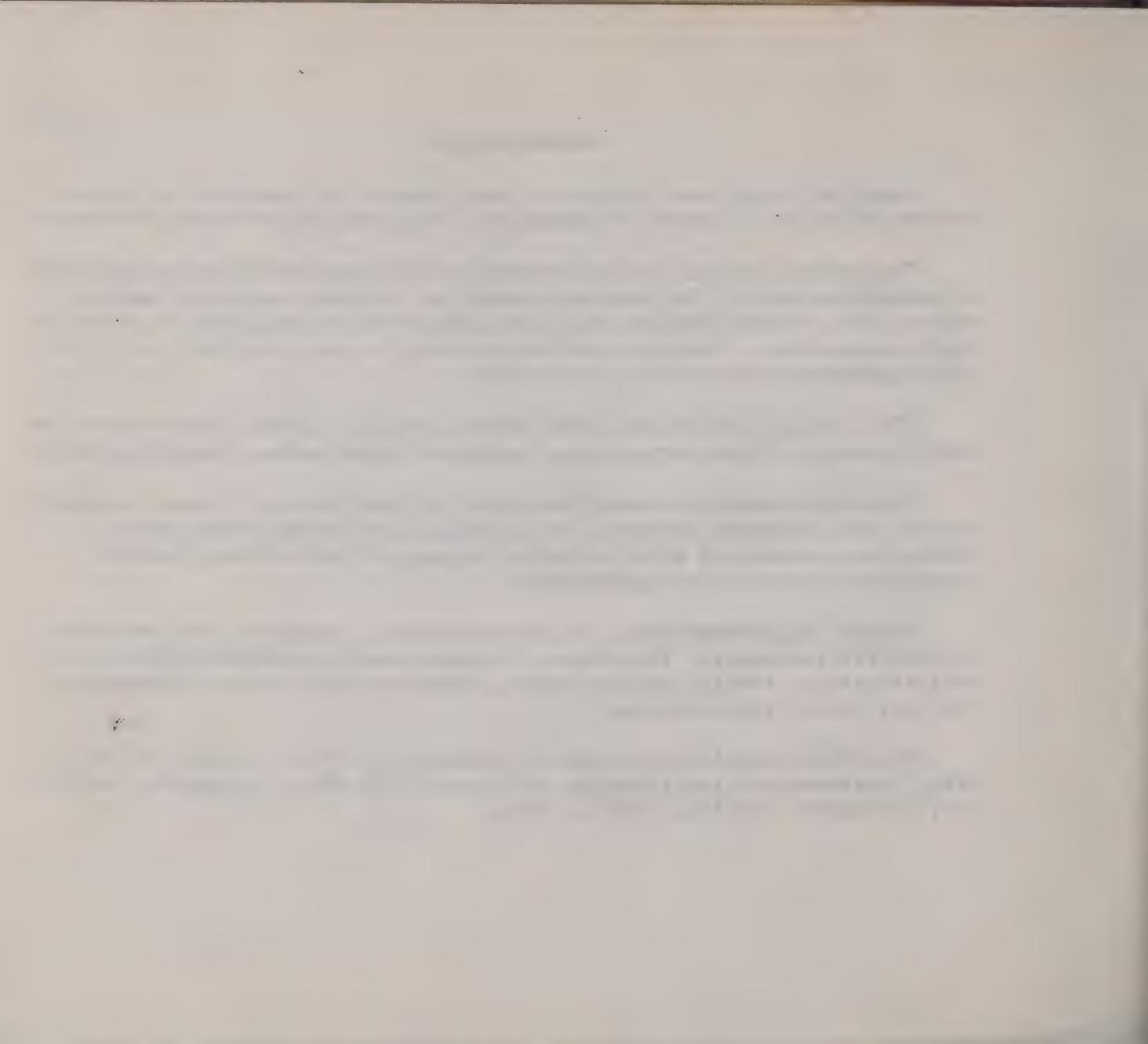
"For effective teaching in grammar grades there should be an abundance of outside material. In fact this should be the main source of content matter, the textbook serving as a reference work and the place in which to study perspective. The course of study should be very explicit as to how the supplementary material is to be used.

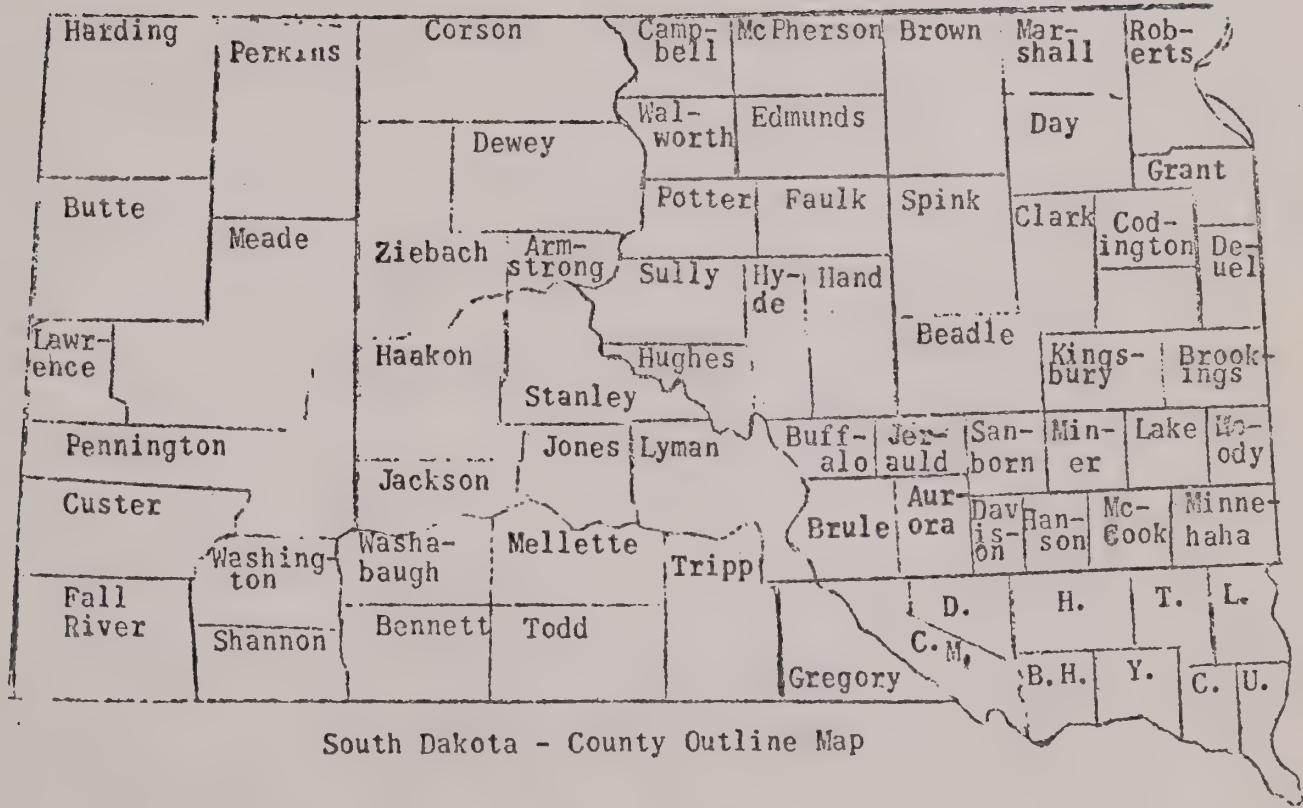
"The leading criticism of the history outline is that small topics and mere historical facts serve as the center of ideas rather than large units.

"Much more emphasis should be given to local history. Many historical stories form suitable material for dramatization in the lower grades.... Indian lore associated with the early history of South Dakota contains situations desirable for reproduction.

"Every neighborhood has, in its own history, elements that form the nucleus for pageantry. The course of study should stimulate activity in this direction, showing how the pupils, with the teacher as a leader, may work out these dramatizations."

(From "The Educational System of South Dakota," U.S. Bureau of Education, Department of the Interior, Bulletin, 1918, No. 31, page 85, Washington, Government Printing Office, 1918.)





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